



President Barack Obama sings "Amazing Grace" during services honoring the life of Rev. Clementa Pinckney, Friday, June 26, 2015, at the College of Charleston TD Arena in Charleston, S.C. Pinckney was one of the nine people killed in the shooting at Emanuel AME Church last week in Charleston.

(AP Photo/David Goldman)

## Obama Delivers Passionate Eulogy in Charleston

**MEG KINNARD**  
**JEFFREY COLLINS**  
**JONATHAN DREW**  
**Associated Press**

CHARLESTON, South Carolina (AP) — President Barack Obama delivered a passionate discourse on America's racial history Friday and then broke into

song during a eulogy for a state senator and pastor, slain along with eight other black churchgoers in what police called a hate crime. "What a life Clementa Pinckney lived!" Obama said to rounds of applause and "amens." "What an example he set. What a

model for his faith." His church "was a sacred place," Obama said, "not just for blacks, or Christians, but for every American who cares about the expansion of liberty. ... That's what the church meant." Thousands of mourners eagerly awaited Obama's

speech, which capped a week of sorrowful good-byes and stunning political developments. The slayings inside the Emanuel African Methodist Church last week have prompted a sudden reevaluation of the Civil War symbols that were invoked to assert white su-

premacy during the South's segregation era. Pinckney came from a long line of preachers and protesters who worked to expand voting rights across the South, Obama said.

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## Dozens killed in attacks in Tunisia, Kuwait and France

**BEN WIACEK  
PAUL SCHEMM**  
Associated Press

**SOUSSE, Tunisia (AP)** — A young man pulled a Kalashnikov from a beach umbrella and sprayed gunfire at European sunbathers at a Tunisian resort, killing at least 37 people — one of three deadly attacks Friday from Europe to North Africa to the Middle East that followed a call to violence by Islamic State extremists.

The shootings in the Tunisian resort of Sousse happened at about the same time as a bombing at a Shiite mosque in Kuwait and an attack on a U.S.-owned factory in France that included a beheading. It was unclear if the violence was linked but it came days after the IS militants urged their followers "to make Ramadan a month of calamities for the nonbelievers." In all, the assailants killed at least 65 people.

The attack in Tunisia, the country's worst ever, comes just months after the March 18 massacre at the national Bardo museum in Tunis that killed 22 people, again mostly tourists, and has called into question the newly elected government's ability to protect the country.

"Once again, cowardly and traitorous hands have struck Tunisia, targeting its security and that of its children and visitors," President Beji Caid Essebsi told reporters at the RIU Imperial Marhaba hotel, near the beach rampage site.

Essebsi promised "painful but necessary" measures, adding: "No country is



**French President Francois Hollande speaks during a media conference at an EU summit in Brussels on Friday, June 26, 2015. President Francois Hollande, speaking in Brussels, said one person was killed and two injured in an attack at a gas factory in Saint-Quentin-Fallavier, southeast of Lyon, France.**

(AP Photo/Geert Vanden Wijngaert)

safe from terrorism, and we need a global strategy of all democratic countries." Rafik Chelli, the secretary of state of the Interior Ministry, told The Associated Press that the attack was carried out by a young student not previously known to authorities. At least 36 people were reported wounded in the shooting spree, which ended when the gunman was shot to death by police. The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the suicide bombing at the Shiite mosque in Kuwait City that killed at least 27 people and wounded scores of other worshippers at midday prayers — the first such attack in the mostly quiet and relatively secure Gulf Arab nation in

more than two decades. In southeastern France, a man with ties to Islamic radicals rammed a car into a gas factory, touching off an explosion that injured two people. Authorities arriving at the site made a grisly discovery: the severed head of the driver's employer was found hanging at the plant entrance. The suspect, Yassine Salhi, was seized by an alert firefighter, authorities said, and French President Francois Hollande said the attacker's intention had been to cause an explosion. A security alert for the southeast region was raised to its highest level for the next three days, and the U.S. Embassy in Paris warned American citizens to be

vigilant.

In an audio recording released Tuesday, the Islamic State called on its supporters to increase attacks during Ramadan and "be keen on waging invasion in this eminent month and commit martyrdom."

In Britain, police said they were tightening security at major events after the attacks in France, Kuwait and Tunisia, including for the weekend events of Armed Forces Day and the Pride London gay and lesbian festival.

The attacks were condemned by the United Nations, the U.S., Israel and others.

"We stand with these nations as they respond to attacks on their soil today,"

the White House said. Pentagon spokesman Col. Steve Warren added it was "too soon to tell whether or not these various and far-flung attacks were coordinated centrally or whether they were coincidental."

The carnage in Tunisia began on the beach, where tourists described hearing what sounded like fireworks and then running for their lives when they realized it was gunfire. Video of the aftermath showed medics using beach chairs as stretchers to carry away people in swimsuits.

"He had a parasol in his hand. He went down to put it in the sand and then he took out his Kalashnikov and began shooting wildly," Chelli said of the gunman.

He then entered the pool area of the Imperial Marhaba hotel before moving inside, killing people as he went.

British tourist Gary Pine told AP he was on the beach with his wife around noon when heard the shooting. They shouted for their son to get out of the water, grabbed their bag and ran for the hotel. Their son told them he saw someone shot on the beach.

There was "sheer panic" at the hotel, Pine said. "There were a lot of concerned people, a few people in tears with panic and a few people — older guests — they'd turned their ankles or there was a few little minor injuries and nicks and scrapes."

Elizabeth O'Brien, an Irish tourist who was with her two sons, told Irish Radio she was on the beach when the shooting began. □





## Obama Delivers Passionate Eulogy in Charleston

Continued from  
Front page

"We do not know whether the killer of Rev. Pinckney knew all of this history," the president said. "But he surely sensed the meaning of his violent act. It was an act that drew on a long history of bombs, and arsons, and shots fired at these churches; not random, but as a means of control, a way to terrorize and oppress.

"It was an act that he imagined would incite fear, and incrimination, violence and suspicion. An act he presumed would deepen divisions that trace back to our nation's original sin," Obama continued, his

voice rising in the cadence of the preachers who preceded him.

"Oh, but God works in mysterious ways!" Obama said, and the crowd rose to give him a standing ovation. "God has different ideas!" Obama then spoke plainly about the ugliness of America's racial history — from slavery to the many ways minorities have been deprived of equal rights in more recent times.

Removing the Confederate battle flag from places of honor is a righteous step toward justice, he said.

"By taking down that flag, we express God's grace. But I don't think God wants us to stop there," Obama said, smiling as the crowd laughed with him.

"For too long, we've been



President Barack Obama is embraced by clergy members after delivering the eulogy at the funeral service for Rev. Clementa Pinckney, Friday, June 26, 2015, in Charleston, S.C. The president delivered a passionate discourse on America's racial history Friday in his eulogy for a state senator and pastor, slain along with eight other black churchgoers in what police called a hate crime. (AP Photo/David Goldman)

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blind to the way past injustices continue to shape the present. Perhaps we see that now. Perhaps this tragedy causes us to ask some tough questions."

The president wrapped up the four-hour funeral in song, belting out the first chorus of a famous Christian hymn, "Amazing Grace," solo before the choir and organist joined in.

America's first black president sang this spiritual less than a mile from the spots where thousands of slaves were sold and where South Carolina signed its pact to leave the union a century and a half earlier.

The "Mother Emanuel" church choir, hundreds strong, led roughly 6,000 people through rousing gospel standards between speakers who celebrated the legacy of state Sen. Clementa Pinckney and his fellow churchgoers.

"Someone should have

told the young man. He wanted to start a race war. But he came to the wrong place," The Right Rev. John Richard Bryant, a top religious leader with the African Methodist Episcopal Church, said to rounds of applause.

A banner alongside Pinckney's closed coffin declared "WRONG CHURCH! WRONG PEOPLE! WRONG DAY!"

Applause also rang out as state Sen. Gerald Malloy, Pinckney's Senate suitemate and his personal lawyer, noted how the slayings have suddenly prompted a reevaluation of Civil War symbols that were invoked to assert white supremacy during the South's segregation era.

"All the change you wanted to see and all the change you wanted to do — because of you, we will see the Confederate flag come down in South Carolina," Malloy said. □



**At Press Time:**

# Official: 1 escaped murderer fatally shot, other is on run

J. KEKIS

M. VIRTANEN

Associated Press

**MALONE, New York (AP)**

— One of two convicted murderers who staged a brazen escape from an upstate maximum-security prison three weeks ago was shot and killed Friday in a wooded area about 30 miles from the prison, and the other is on the run, an official told The Associ-

ated Press.

An official with knowledge of the manhunt said Richard Matt was killed and David Sweat is still on the run. The official wasn't authorized to talk about the development publicly and spoke to the AP on the condition of anonymity. Matt was spotted by an officer at 3:45 p.m. in a heavily wooded area in Malone, the focus of the search



New York State Department of Corrections Officers and a forest ranger, left, search an area in Owls Head, N.Y. for convicted murderers Richard Matt and David Sweat, Friday, June 26, 2015. Officials announced at press time that Richard Matt was killed by police and David Sweat is still on the run. (AP Photo/Mary Altaffer)

in recent days, state police said. Authorities haven't revealed details of what led to the shooting.

Police have blocked off roads in the area, which is about 30 miles (50 kilometers) west of the Clinton Correctional Facility. Officers are trucking in floodlights to where Sweat is believed to be, not far from where Matt was killed.

State Police Maj. Charles Guess said earlier Friday that the search area had shifted slightly northwest after investigators found evidence left behind by the escapees. Items were found Thursday at a cabin and Friday morning in a field, both in Malone, he said.

Matt and Sweat used power tools to saw through a steel cell wall and several steel steam pipes, bashed a hole through a 2-foot (0.6-meter)-thick brick wall, squirmed through pipes and escaped early June 6 from the prison in

Dannemora, near the Canadian border.

Sweat was serving a sentence of life without parole in the killing of a sheriff's deputy in Broome County in 2002. Matt was serving 25 years to life for the killing and dismembering of his former boss. They were added to the U.S. Marshals Service's 15 Most Wanted fugitives list two weeks after getting away.

The search for the escaped killers was initially concentrated around the prison and a rural community where search dogs had caught the scent of both men. The search had since been expanded to neighboring counties, and, while authorities said there was no evidence the men had gotten out of the general area, they conceded they could have been almost anywhere.

A civilian worker at the prison was charged with helping the killers flee by giving them hacksaw blades,

chisels and other tools.

Prosecutors said Joyce Mitchell, a prison tailoring shop instructor who got close to the men while working with them, had agreed to be their getaway driver but backed out because she felt guilty for participating. Mitchell pleaded not guilty June 15 to charges including felony promoting prison contraband.

Authorities said the men had filled their beds in their adjacent cells with clothes to make it appear they were sleeping when guards made overnight rounds. On a cut steam pipe, the prisoners left a taunting note containing a crude caricature of an Asian face and the words "Have a nice day."

Clinton County District Attorney Andrew Wylie said they apparently used tools stored by prison contractors, taking care to return them to their toolboxes after each night's work. □

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# Supreme Court declares US-wide right to same-sex marriage

MARK SHERMAN  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Gay and lesbian Americans have the same right to marry as any other couples, the U.S. Supreme Court declared Friday in a historic ruling deciding one of America's most contentious and emotional legal questions. Celebrations and joyful weddings quickly followed states where they had been forbidden. The vote was narrow — 5-4 — but the ruling will put an end to same-sex marriage bans in the 14 states that still maintain them, and provide an exclamation point for breathtaking changes in America's social norms in recent years. As recently as last October, just over one-third of the states permitted gay marriages.

Public acceptance has also shot up in recent years, in stark contrast to the widespread outcry against a 2004 ruling by the high

court in Massachusetts legalizing same-sex marriage there, prompting several states to ban it and galvanizing conservative voter turnout during George W. Bush's re-election campaign. Just over a decade later, Justice Anthony Kennedy's majority opinion was clear and firm: "The court now holds that same-sex couples may exercise the fundamental right to marry. No longer may this liberty be denied to them." Kennedy's reading of the ruling elicited tears in the courtroom, euphoria outside and the immediate issuance of marriage licenses to same-sex couples in county offices in Georgia and Texas. In Dallas, Kenneth Denson said he and Gabriel Mendez had been legally married in 2013 in California but "we're Texans; we want to get married in Texas."

In praise of the decision, President Barack Obama



The crowd celebrates outside of the Supreme Court in Washington, Friday June 26, 2015, after the court declared that same-sex couples have a right to marry anywhere in the US.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

called it "justice that arrives like a thunderbolt."

Four of the court's justices weren't cheering. The dissenters accused their colleagues of usurping power that belongs to the states and to voters, and short-cir-

cuiting a national debate about same-sex marriage.

"This court is not a legislature. Whether same-sex marriage is a good idea should be of no concern to us," Chief Justice John Roberts wrote in dissent.

Roberts read a summary of his dissent from the bench, the first time he has done so in nearly 10 years as chief justice.

Justice Antonin Scalia said he was not concerned so much about same-sex marriage as "this court's threat to American democracy." He termed the decision a "judicial putsch."

Several religious organizations criticized the decision and a group of pastors in Texas vowed to defy it.

Kennedy said nothing in the court's ruling would force religions to condone, much less perform, weddings to which they object. And he said the couples seeking the right to marry should not have to wait for the political branches of government to act.

"The dynamic of our constitutional system is that individuals need not await legislative action before asserting a fundamental right. □

## Gay US couples wed on historic day as conservatives resist

C. GALOFARO  
K. CHANDLER  
Associated Press

**LOUISVILLE, Kentucky (AP)** — Benjamin Moore and Tadd Roberts wore matching tuxedos to the county clerk's office in Louisville to get married Friday, and the mayor greeted them with a bottle of champagne. They were among a rush of gay couples across America who celebrated the Supreme Court's ruling legalizing same-sex marriage with spontaneous weddings. They were young and old, they wore gowns and suits or T-shirts and jeans, they kissed and waved flags that read "love wins."

"It's just been incredible and historic and amazing to live this moment," Moore said, after the mayor took commemorative photos of him and Roberts getting their license.

But the reaction wasn't as welcoming in some of the 14 states that had been the last holdouts against same-sex marriages, creating confusion as some officials embraced the ruling and others resisted it.

In rural Alabama, the heart of the battle against gay marriage, Pike County Probate Judge Wes Allen said he would stop issuing all marriage licenses to avoid having to give them to gay

couples. Allen said Alabama law gives judges the option of granting licenses, and "I have chosen not to perform that function."

Governors in Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas also railed against the ruling. And clerks in some of the affected states refused to issue licenses, citing a three-week grace period allowed by the Supreme Court or forms now out of date that specify "bride" and "groom."

But by Friday afternoon, couples had received licenses in all but one of the 14 states, according to the Human Rights Campaign. In Louisiana, where Repub-

lican Gov. Bobby Jindal is running for the White House as a conservative Christian, same-sex couples were turned away.

In Texas, many counties held off on issuing same-sex marriage licenses until receiving guidance from Republican Attorney General Ken Paxton, who scolded the Supreme Court but left counties in limbo for hours. The delay dragged on for hours in Houston, until the clerk relented and agreed not to wait for updated forms from the state.

Other clerks scrambled to issue licenses as gay couples rushed to their offices.

In Arkansas, Pulaski County Clerk Larry Crane held a hand to his heart after the Supreme Court's ruling.

"It is a special day," he said, choking up. "I'm honored to be a part of it."

Jessica Dent and Carolee Taylor got married a few blocks from the courthouse in Montgomery, Alabama. "Never thought it would happen in our lifetime," said Taylor.

After their ceremony, they returned to the courthouse to file their license, making them officially married in the conservative state that had fought back against efforts to legalize gay marriage. □





## Popular elsewhere, high-speed rail remains elusive in the US

**JULIET WILLIAMS**  
Associated Press

**SACRAMENTO, California**

**(AP)** — Travelers easily whiz from city to city on high-speed trains in many parts of South America, Asia and Europe. Since the first high-speed lines began operating more than 50 years ago in Japan, they have become an essential part of transportation worldwide.

Yet the U.S. has never built a single stretch of high-speed rail, which is generally defined as accommodating trains that go at least 200 mph (321 kph). And proposals to do so have been thwarted for decades.

So what's holding America back?

For starters, a much larger land mass, longer distances between major cities and the high cost of construction. Other factors include efficient air travel, relatively low prices for gasoline and a car-based



**A full-scale mock-up of a high-speed train is displayed at the Capitol in Sacramento, Calif. In recent decades, political pressure against bullet trains has come from conservatives who argue that such systems should acquire private financial backing and prove that their operations will at minimum be cost-neutral. It's a burden state and federal governments do not place on other huge transportation projects such as freeways and airports. (AP Photo/Rich Pedroncelli)**

culture.

"The challenge in America is the scale of America," said Robert Eckels, chief executive of the Texas Central High Speed Railway, a private venture that is planning a bullet

train between Dallas and Houston.

In recent decades, political pressure against bullet trains has come from conservatives who argue that such systems should acquire private financial

backing and prove that their operations will at minimum be cost-neutral. It's a burden state and federal governments do not place on other huge transportation projects such as freeways and airports.

For now, the best the country can do is Amtrak's Acela, which reaches speeds up to 150 mph on a busy route between Washington and Boston.

In an effort to jump-start high-speed rail, the Obama administration in 2009 awarded \$7 billion for projects in California, Florida and Wisconsin. Republican governors in Florida and Wisconsin rejected the funding and backed out of high-speed rail plans, sending more of those dollars to California.

The list of other proposals for faster-speed rail includes: linking Las Vegas with greater Los Angeles; Chicago with St. Louis; Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, with Pittsburgh; Oklahoma City with Tulsa; and upgrading track on a medium-speed line between Miami and Orlando. Despite the political resistance and financial hurdles, two projects have moved beyond the conceptual phase. One is California's \$68 billion plan for a high-speed rail network connecting Northern and Southern California. The other is the privately financed plan in central Texas.

California's long-term financing plan relies heavily on federal money that is unlikely to materialize in a Republican-controlled Congress. But Democratic Gov. Jerry Brown remains a strong supporter, negotiating a dedicated funding stream through a separate program that raises money from businesses as part of an effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. □

### Survey:

## Consumer sentiment at highest since January

**PAUL WISEMAN**  
AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Consumer sentiment rose this month to the highest level since January, suggesting that spending will strengthen this year.

The University of Michigan says its consumer sentiment index rose to 96.1 this month from 90.7 in May. The June reading was the highest since January's 98.1. The index is up from 82.5 a year ago.

For the first six months of 2015, consumer optimism improved at the fastest pace since 2004, three years before the Great Recession, said Richard Curtin, chief economist for the Michigan survey.

"An improving economy was the most important component," Curtin said. He said the readings are consistent with a 3 percent increase in consumer spending this year. That would be the fastest pace

since 2006. The Commerce Department reported this week that consumer spending rose at an annual pace of 2.1 percent from January through March.

"After a soft start to the year, we expect the economy to find its footing in the coming months with stronger consumer spending seen to be a key driver of accelerating (economic) growth," Gregory Daco, head of U.S. macroeconomics at Oxford Economics, wrote in a

research note.

Americans at all income levels registered improving optimism.

The optimism reflects a strong job market. Employers have been adding jobs — nearly 3.1 million over the past year — at a pace not seen since the boom years of the late 1990s. Unemployment stood at 5.5 percent in May, down from 6.3 percent a year earlier. Wages have been slower to improve. □



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## Teed off at Univision, Trump drives dispute off course

**FRAZIER MOORE**  
**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Donald Trump to Univision: Get off my lawn.

Firing back at Univision for its refusal to air his Miss USA and Miss Universe pageants, the outspoken mogul and GOP presidential candidate has barred anyone who works for Univision from the greens of his Miami golf course.

In a letter Friday to Randy Falco, Trump advised the Univision CEO that "under no circumstances is any officer or representative of Univision allowed to use Trump National Doral, Miami — its golf courses or any of its facilities."

Trump also demanded that Falco, whose company's Miami office is next door to Trump National Doral, "immediately stop work and close the gate which is being constructed between our respective properties." Trump gave Falco one week to take care of that matter, or "we will close it." The letter was dispatched a day after Univision declared it was canceling its coverage of the Miss USA pageant July 12 on its UniMas network as well as the Miss Universe pageant, which had been scheduled to air on the flagship Univision channel next January, and was severing its business relationship with the Miss Universe Organization, which produces both pageants. The reason: what Univision called "insulting remarks about Mexican immigrants" recently voiced by Trump, a part owner of Miss Universe.

During his presidential campaign kickoff speech last week, Trump had portrayed immigrants from Mexico as "bringing drugs, they're bringing crime,

they're rapists, and some, I assume, are good people." He also called for building a wall along the southern border of the U.S. The remarks drew condemnation from the Mexican government as "biased and absurd," and sparked Univision's announcement. Trump, who has said his criticism was directed against U.S. policymakers, not the Mexican people or its government, stated Thursday that Univision would be defaulting on an ironclad contract if it doesn't air the pageants. He pledged to take legal action against the company. He also accused the New York-based Univision of having ties to Mexico that led the network to submit to pressure from Mexican leaders to punish him for pro-U.S. positions he expresses as a presidential candidate.

"They don't want me saying that Mexico is killing the United States in trade and killing the United States at the border," Trump had said.

In a P.S. to his letter, which was addressed to Univision's Manhattan headquarters, Trump continued on that track.

"Please congratulate your Mexican Government officials for having made such outstanding trade deals with the United States," he wrote Falco. "However, inform them that should I become President, those days are over. We are bringing jobs back to the U.S. Also, a meaningful border will be immediately created, not the laughingstock that currently exists."

The letter was signed, "Sincerely, Donald J. Trump." When asked for comment on Trump's letter, Univision seemed to be treating it as par for the course. A memo



Donald Trump delivers remarks in New York. Firing back at Univision for its refusal to air his Miss USA and Miss Universe pageants, outspoken mogul and GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump has barred anyone who works for Univision from the greens of his Miami golf course.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

to Univision management on Thursday directed that, as part of the company's

decision to cut ties with Miss Universe, employees "should not stay at Trump

properties while on company business or hold events/activities there." □

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# Greece, creditors reportedly edge closer to rescue deal

D. GATOPOULOS  
 R. CASERT  
 Associated Press

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — Greece and its rescue creditors edged closer to a deal on loans needed to avoid a potentially disastrous bankruptcy, but angry objections in Athens to some demands kept the talks on edge ahead of a key meeting this weekend. The government on Friday agreed to key reforms that are close to what creditors have demanded before they release new loans, officials said on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the negotia-

tions. The creditors in return offered Greece a five-month extension to its bailout program, which would otherwise end Tuesday, leaving the country facing a financial meltdown. Without new loans and a bailout extension, the country would default on a debt due Tuesday and its banks could be left to collapse. Together, the events could push Greece to leave the euro, a move that would drive the country back into a deep, long recession and shake European and global markets. Greece said the creditors'

offer for a bailout extension — which includes incremental loan disbursements linked to Greece's repayment schedule — was insufficient. Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras expressed his annoyance at the creditors' demands. "The European Union's founding principles were democracy, solidarity, equality, and mutual respect. These principles were not based on blackmail and ultimatums," he said leaving Brussels after a week of intense negotiations. Greece offered a first set of concessions earlier this week and added more on



Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras gestures as he leaves after an EU summit in Brussels on Friday, June 26, 2015. EU leaders, in a second day of meetings, discussed migration, the Greek bailout and European defense.

(AP Photo/Geert Vanden Wijngaert)

Friday, including a proposal to slash state spending on pensions — something creditors had demanded. "The difference now is very, very small" between the two sides, an official from one of the creditor institutions said. Markets rose on news of the new concessions, with the Athens stock index closing up 2 percent and other major European indexes edging higher. Eurozone finance ministers will meet in Brussels Saturday to try and hammer out a final deal, which will require swift parliamentary approval in Greece before Tuesday. "Tomorrow's meeting is of a decisive character," German Chancellor Angela Merkel said after meeting Tsipras and French President Francois Hollande. European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker agreed. "There is a real chance to conclude an agreement," he said, describing Saturday as "a crucial day not only for Greece but for the euro area as a whole. I'm quite optimistic but not overly optimistic." According to the text of the creditors' proposals seen by

The Associated Press, Athens was offered an extension to its bailout program through November, with loans worth 15.5 billion euros. That includes 7.2 billion euros from the existing rescue program and money left over from a bank rescue fund. "The gap between Greece and its creditors looks much smaller now that Greece has caved on some of its proposed pension reforms," said Megan Greene, chief economist at Manulife Asset Management. But the added austerity is likely to keep Greece in recession for a seventh successive, she said, and not address many of its economy's underlying problems. "The big questions are whether the government will survive this deal, whether the deal is at all implementable, and whether Greece can find a large pot of money to recapitalize its badly ailing banks," she said. Worried Greeks have been pulling their money out of banks, fearing a failure in the negotiations could lead to financial turmoil and a restriction on banking transactions. An estimated 4 billion left Greek banks last week.

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## Amid new IS offensive, scores die in Syrian town

**HAMZA HENDAWI**

**Associated Press**

**BEIRUT (AP)** — Fighting raged into the night Friday between Kurdish fighters and Islamic State militants in the Syrian border town of Kobani, as reports mounted that at least 120 civilians, including women and children, have been killed by the extremist group since it launched a new offensive on the strategic town the previous day. The fighting came amid deadly terror attacks across continents — from shootings in a Tunisian beach resort, to an attack on a U.S.-owned factory in France and a suicide bombing by an Islamic State affiliate at a Shiite mosque in Kuwait that killed at least 27 worshippers — all following the IS group's call for violence during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. Syria's official SANA news agency said some 120 civilians were killed by IS fighters since Thursday in Kobani, describing the killings as a "massacre." It gave no details, but Kobani-based activist Mustafa Bali told The Associated Press that as many as 142 were killed, mostly civilians shot dead in cold blood, and 183 were wounded. At least 40 IS militants were also killed, their bodies left unclaimed on the town's streets, said Bali. IS militants remained fortified in buildings in several districts of this northern Syrian town on the Turkish-Syrian border, he added. They were holding hostages in three locations, he said. A fourth location, a restaurant, was stormed by Kurdish fighters who freed the hostages and killed several IS fighters earlier in the day, Bali said. Also Friday, a suicide car bombing targeted a security building in the

northeastern town of Hasakeh, which also came under a surprise IS attack on Thursday. The Syrian news agency said there were casualties, without giving a figure, while the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said at least 20 troops were killed and the building was badly damaged. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the Hassakeh bombing, which bore the hallmarks of the Islamic State group. The surprise twin attacks on Kobani and Hassakeh came after the Islamic State group suffered a series of setbacks over the past two weeks, including the loss of the Syrian border town of Tal Abyad — one of the group's main points for the transfer of foreign fighters and supplies. Kobani has become a symbol of Kurdish resistance after the town. Backed by U.S.-led coalition airstrikes, the town's defenders endured a months-long siege by the Islamic State before they broke the siege and drove the IS forces out. Kurdish officials said IS militants wearing Syrian rebel uniforms and carrying the flags of the Western-backed Free Syrian Army sneaked into the town before dawn on Thursday as everyone slept. Just before sunrise, they set off three car bombs and quickly took up fortified positions inside buildings, they said. "Honestly, their plan was very smart," said Bali. "We believe they came from the north and that they had been inside the city for at least two hours before the fighting began." "It is evident that they are experienced fighters, but it is a suicide mission aimed at killing as many people as possible before they die," he said. □



Turkish soldiers stand guard as people from the Syrian town of Ayn al-Arab or Kobani, in the background, wait to cross into Turkey following the attacks by IS militants as seen from the Turkish side of the border in Suruc, Turkey, Friday, June 26, 2015.

(AP Photo)

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## Philippine officials say China island-building in full swing

JIM GOMEZ

Associated Press

PUERTO PRINCESA, Philip-

pines (AP) — China is pressing ahead with the construction of artificial islands on at least two reefs that are also claimed by the Philippines in an increasingly tense territorial dispute, Filipino officials said Friday, despite Beijing's pronouncement that some work would end soon.

Mayor Eugenio Bito-onon of Kalayaan islands, which are under Philippine control, said he saw Chinese construction in full swing with many dredgers and huge cranes visible when he flew last week near Subi Reef.

It's one of at least seven reefs and atolls in the South China Sea where



Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force P-3C Orion surveillance plane flies over the disputed islands, called the Senkaku in Japan and Diaoyu in China, in the East China Sea. China is pressing ahead with the construction of artificial islands on at least two reefs that are also claimed by the Philippines in an increasingly tense territorial dispute, Filipino officials said Friday.

(Kyodo News via AP)

the U.S. and the Philippines have expressed concern that China's island-build-

ing could be used to base military planes and navy ships to intimidate other claimants, reinforce China's claim over virtually the entire area and threaten freedom of navigation in one of the world's busiest shipping lanes.

"It's full-blast construction. It's massive and incredible," Bito-onon told The Associated Press, adding that it was evident it would take months before the Chinese complete the work.

In the mid portion of the emerging man-made island, a 3-kilometer (1.9-mile) -long landfill is taking

the shape of a runway, he said.

His comments followed similar findings by the U.S. military and independent defense analysts.

Two senior Philippine military officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to talk to the media, said that aside from Subi Reef, China's island-building has also continued on Mischief Reef in the Spratly Islands, based on recent military surveillance.

Chinese Embassy officials in Manila did not immediately comment.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry said on June 16 that the land reclamation projects on some islands and reefs "will be completed in upcoming days." However, in a sign that the developments were far from over, the ministry also said on its website that China would follow up by building infrastructure for maritime search and rescue, environmental conservation and scientific research.

Asked when the island-building would be completed, Chinese Defense Ministry spokesman Senior Col. Yang Yujun gave a vague reply to reporters Thursday, saying it "depends on the progress made on the ground."

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang said island construction projects "do not affect the freedom of navigation and overflight enjoyed by all countries in accordance with international law in the South China Sea."

However, a U.S. Navy plane flying near one of the artificial islands last month was told to leave the area by the Chinese military. In a separate incident several weeks ago, a Philippine air force plane was also ordered by the Chinese navy to leave the area. □

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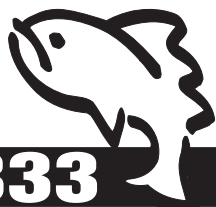


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## Seoul: more sanctions over NKorean arms

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— South Korea on Friday imposed financial sanctions on seven individuals and organizations from Taiwan and Syria after they were linked to weapons trade with North Korea.

The list revealed by government officials included Taiwanese businessman Hsien Tai Tsai who was sentenced to 2 years

in jail by a U.S. court in March for his involvement in the supply of weapons-manufacturing machinery to North Korea. Syria's Scientific Studies and Research Center, a state-run institution that focuses on developing missiles, is also suspected of arms trade with North Korea, according to an official from Seoul's foreign ministry, who didn't want to be

named, citing office rules. Any South Korean who trades with these sanctioned individuals or organizations without permission can be jailed for up to three years or fined up to \$268,000. South Korea imposes the same sanctions on 32 individuals and organizations sanctioned by the United Nations Security Council over arms trade with North Korea. □



# EU refugee response exposes divisions, meager ambitions

LORNE COOK  
Associated Press

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — The European Union decided Friday to share 40,000 of the refugees landing in Italy and Greece but foot-dragging and verbal sniping over the move exposed deep divisions about how to deal with Europe's massive migrant influx.

While the size of the challenge is daunting, the EU's response has been underwhelming. More than 114,000 migrants fleeing wars or poverty have been plucked from the Mediterranean so far this year as they try to cross in unseaworthy smugglers' boats. Some 2,600 have died or are missing along the route, according to the International Organization for Migration.

"It is — to tell the disturbing truth — a very modest effort," European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker said Friday after EU leaders agreed at a summit to decide by late July on how to distribute

the refugees.

Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi agreed.

"It's not a big number," he said. "For Italy it's a small help, but there's still a lot of work to do."

Greece and Italy have been swamped by the arrivals, while Hungary and Bulgaria are also under pressure from thousands of migrants traveling over land. Things are likely to get worse amid the summer high season for migrant crossings.

Radical action is being taken around Europe in response. Hungary has pledged to build a fence to keep out the torrent of migrants crossing its border with Serbia. France and Italy have been at loggerheads over the movement of migrants along their common border. Police have dismantled migrant camps in northern France, from where people are hoping to cross into Britain. Greece and Italy have been accused of not properly screening arrivals and



Migrants queue to receive their daily food distribution in a makeshift camp known as the "jungle", in Calais, northern France. Migrants from Sudan, Eritrea and elsewhere are camped by the thousand in the port city of Calais trying to reach Britain, where they believe they will have better job prospects.

(AP Photo/Michel Spingler)

allowing them to move deeper into the 28-nation EU.

In an effort to ease some of their burden, Juncker's team has tried to force northern EU countries to

share the burden, but any notion of mandatory migrant quotas for each nation was rejected at the summit.

Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel called Fri-

day's decision "saddening and disappointing."

"There is a lack of ambition, a lack of will," he said. "It wasn't a sense of solidarity that dominated around that table." □

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## Leahy heads US delegation to Cuba ahead of embassies

**HAVANA (AP)** — A bipartisan delegation of U.S. senators was in Cuba on Friday to meet with top government officials and others to discuss rapprochement between the two countries. The United States and Cuba announced on Dec.

17 they would move to restore diplomatic ties that were severed more than 50 years ago, but talks on reopening embassies have yet to yield an agreement six months later. Asked when that might happen, Vermont Sen. Patrick Leahy

said, "the sooner the better." "I'm glad to see things are changing between our countries, and the more they change, the faster they change, the better for both countries," he said in brief remarks as the lawmakers left their Havana

hotel and boarded a bus. Leahy, who has traveled to Cuba multiple times, was leading a group that also included fellow Democrat Ben Cardin of Maryland and Republican Dean Heller of Nevada. The senators met with Cuba's first vice

president and heir-apparent to Raul Castro, Miguel Diaz-Canel. A statement from the U.S. State Department said the delegation also would meet with religious leaders, ambassadors and others in Havana and the eastern city of Santiago.

## Haiti: Dominican deportations causing 'humanitarian crisis'

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)** — Haiti's prime minister warned Thursday that the Dominican Republic is creating a humanitarian crisis with its crackdown on migrants, noting that 14,000 people have crossed the border into Haiti in less than a week. "That is massive," Prime Minister Evans Paul said during a meeting with reporters to talk about the issue. He said the number included both people being deported and those leaving voluntarily. He said many of them should be considered Dominican citizens. Paul spoke just days after the Dominican government announced it would start deporting non-citizens who did not submit applications to establish legal

residency. Many of those affected are of Haitian descent or from Haiti. The majority of those crossing the border are children and young adults, said Paul, who stressed that the Haitian government needs to establish a social and economic plan to help them. He said that creating camps near the border to house them would only lead to more poverty. Paul called for renewed dialogue with the Dominican government to address the migrant issue, among other things. "It's time to try and fix everything that needs fixing, to improve relations between both countries, but also for the good of the people, for the respect of the people on both sides of



**A man jokes around as he loads plantains for export to Haiti into a transport truck, at a border market in Jimani, Dominican Republic. Haiti's prime minister warned Thursday that the Dominican Republic is creating a humanitarian crisis with its crackdown on migrants.**

(AP Photo/Rebecca Blackwell)

the border," he said. The Dominican government has said deportations will be a slow and lengthy process, with migration of-

officials saying more than 12,000 people have left the country voluntarily. Dominican officials met Wednesday with several

ambassadors to explain the details of the immigration registration program, in which nearly 290,000 people have enrolled. □

## Puerto Rico amends laws after US ruling on gay marriage

**DANICA COTO**  
**Associated Press**

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)** — Thousands of people in Puerto Rico celebrated Friday's U.S. Supreme Court ruling to allow gay marriage as authorities rushed to approve legislation extending marriage rights in the socially conservative U.S. territory. Just hours after the court's decision, Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla signed an executive order requiring

government agencies to become compliant with the ruling within 15 days. As a result, the island's Health Department and other agencies are expected to begin issuing marriage licenses by early next month. Justice Secretary Cesar Miranda said that while it was not immediately clear whether the ruling also meant that gay couples in Puerto Rico could now adopt, he said he would accept and support the

change. Miranda praised the Supreme Court ruling as "a huge step in the quest for equal rights. You cannot deny people the right to love." All U.S. Supreme Court rulings apply in the U.S. territory. Several gay couples in Puerto Rico previously had filed a lawsuit challenging local laws including those that prohibit same-sex marriage and the recognition

of such marriages. The island's Justice Department originally fought the lawsuit but announced earlier this year it would no longer defend the laws. The case then was put on hold pending a Supreme Court ruling. Supporters of the ruling gathered at the seaside Capitol building to celebrate, while religious leaders across the island rejected it. Monsignor Daniel Fernandez, Catholic bishop of the

northern city of Arecibo, said he would continue to protect the institution of marriage as it is meant to be: "By nature, marriage exists and can only exist between a man and a woman," he said. Garcia acknowledged opponents in a statement, saying, "I ask all of those who are people of faith like me to understand that no one is allowed to impose their religious beliefs on others." □





## Diamonds International Honors Students for Their Excellence



**ORANJESTAD** - On June 25th Diamonds International hosted a special event honoring the top graduates from each high school on the island. Pampered

with cupcakes and gifts from Diamonds International, the students posed for pictures and enjoyed the evening together with their parents as guests of

honor. The top graduates on island are:

Melony Lobbrecht and Laryssa Karta, Maria College.

Gozale He Wu and Britney Bontekoe, Filomena College.

Rigena Dirkz, John Wesley College.

Efraim Van Der Linden, Juliana School.

Luis Alejandro Figaroa and Tanisha Dania, La Salle College.

Jamilla Phillip and Kayleigh Esguerra, Mon Plaisir College.

Jennelisa Orcadio, Colegio San Nicolas H.A.V.O.



Josdania Farro, Colegio Arubano H.A.V.O.

Isabella Croes, Colegio Arubano V.W.O.

Diamonds International wishes all the graduates

the best of luck in all their future studies!

□ "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams" – Eleanor Roosevelt. □





## Unique Bourbon Tasting With Jason Brauner at Sidebar Bistro



--Sidebar Bistro is bringing Bourbon Country to Aruba

**ORANJESTAD** - On Thursday July 2nd, the new restaurant in Renaissance Marketplace, Sidebar Bistro, is introducing a unique Bourbon Tasting, hosted by Bourbon authority Jason Brauner from Louisville, Kentucky. Sidebar Restaurant in the Renaissance Marketplace does not only stand out because of its high end Angus Beef gourmet burgers and wide variety of draft beers, but also because of

Aruba's largest selection of Bourbon. You can choose from 64 different bottles. Once you try the various Bourbons or Bourbon cocktails, you will be lost. This is another world, unknown on Aruba, where your taste buds will be partying and the lingering aftertaste of a premium Bourbon will be a cherished memory for a long time to come. Sidebar is specialized in Bourbons, so expect a wall filled with the best brands from Kentucky. Next to that wall will be an intriguing lineup of wooden barrels with

pre-mixed, aged Bourbon cocktails; the bartender can tap your favorite cocktail from the barrel! Imagine your Mint Julep, your Manhattan or Kentucky Derby on tap!

Jason Brauner is the founder of Louisville's hottest bourbon establishment, Bourbon Bistro. Years of experience with serving this precious spirit and dealing with world's most famous and impressive bourbon brands like Angel's Envy, Evan Williams and Town Branch, Brauner will make his way to Aruba to enlighten us on characteristic differences between single barrel bourbon, small



batch bourbon and wheated bourbon. During Sidebar's bourbon tasting, held Thursday July 2nd from 7pm till 9pm he will let you taste three high end bourbons, two barrel aged cocktails like the Mint Julep and Kentucky Maid, and will disclose all secrets to fully enjoy this whiskey from Kentucky. As they say in Bourbon County: "All bourbon is whiskey, but not all whiskey is bourbon." The unique character of bourbon and the precious preserved distill process have made bourbon one of the most popular spirits in the world.

The event will be complemented by Sidebar's Chef Ricky Croes, with matching menu teasers. The price for an evening of bourbon tasting is US\$ 32.50 per person. Since availability is limited reservations are needed. Contact Sidebar at 5885511 or email [info@sidebararuba.com](mailto:info@sidebararuba.com) to reserve your seat. Sidebar Bistro is located at Renaissance Marketplace across from Ocean Suites and is open daily from 8am till midnight (weekends till 1am). For press information, please call Kim d'Hont at 594-5265. □

## Carol Bellamy Honored at the Divi Village Beach Resort



**DRUIF BEACH** - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice wom-

an who is a loyal and friendly visitor of Aruba as Ambassador of Goodwill at the Divi Village Beach Resort.



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Oaks, California. Carol loves Aruba very much for the climate, beaches, restaurants and nightlife. She loves to be with her Aruban friends when she visits, and she brought some family members and friends with

her on this trip. The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Ms. Gloria Defoe representing the Divi Village and Carol's family and friends. □



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## Talented Violinist from the USA: Andrea Hughes is the first winner of the “Clyde Harms Scholarship”

**ORANJESTAD** - During the Nuevo Mundo Festival & Academy (NMFA) 2015 that just ended last week, a competition was held among the students of all musical instruments. The American violinist from Utah, Miss Andrea Hughes was named the winner while Renato Moscott, a cellist from Caracas, Venezuela obtained second place. With her victory, Andrea became the first winner of the “Clyde Harms Scholarship” which NMFA created to honor an Aruban who helped them establish in Aruba and who has been an ardent fan of NMFA since 2005 when they were still performing in Maracaibo. The scholarship covers the student's fees for next year's festival. Andrea Hughes is only 24 years old, but already has an impressive trajectory as a violinist. She obtained



her Bachelor's degree in music at Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM) studying under Professors Paul Kantor and Ivan Zenaty. She has performed in concerts with the Woods Cross Orchestra and with the Utah Symphony. She has also collaborated with the Ohio Valley Symphony and the Suzuki Youth Orchestra of the Americas. She has taken Master classes with renowned professors such as Charles Castleman, Jo-

seph Silverstein and Barbara Gorzyska. In 2006, when she was just 15, Andrea won the first prize of the UMTA Pre-Collegiate Instrumental Competition and of the Utah State Fair Competition. She again won the latter competition in 2007. Two years ago Andrea received the Dr. Jerome Gross Award presented annually to the graduate or undergraduate student demonstrating the greatest progress



during the school year, as determined by the violin faculty at CIM. The Aruban classical music lovers look

forward to seeing Andrea Hughes back in Aruba next year. [clydeharm@yahoo.com](mailto:clydeharm@yahoo.com)





Connor McDavid prepares to put on an Edmonton Oilers sweater after being picked first overall by the Oilers during the first round of the NHL hockey draft, Friday, June 26, 2015, in Sunrise, Fla.

Associated Press

## No surprise: Connor McDavid goes No. 1 in NHL draft

TIM REYNOLDS

AP Sports Writer

**SUNRISE, Fla. (AP)** — Connor McDavid's favorite hockey player is Sidney Crosby. His favorite non-skating athlete is LeBron James.

He's now in their club, forever to be known as a No. 1 pick.

McDavid's journey toward widely expected NHL superstardom officially began Friday night when the Edmonton Oilers grabbed him with the top overall selection in the draft. No player has entered the league with such hype since Crosby a decade ago, and his level of celebrity within the game already may rival what James was dealing with when he joined the NBA in 2003.

Crosby and James proved the buzz surrounding them was worthwhile, both having won the biggest team and individual honors in their sport. And McDavid now gets his chance to fulfill the highest of expectations.

Continued on Page 18

# ASTRO- NOMICAL



## Keuchel strikes out 12 to lead Astros past Bombers, 4-0

Houston Astros starting pitcher Dallas Keuchel yells after the final out of a baseball game against the New York Yankees on Thursday, June 25, 2015, in Houston. The Astros won 4-0.

Associated Press  
Page 21



# NHL draft

Continued from Page 17

"Unbelievable," McDavid said. "This is such a surreal feeling. It's really hard to put into words right now how much this means to me."

The Oilers haven't made the playoffs since 2006, a far cry from the days when Wayne Gretzky dominated the NHL and Edmonton won five titles in a seven-year span from 1984 through 1990.

No pressure, Connor.

"The Edmonton Oilers have such a historic history," McDavid said.

That they do.

And now he's their future.

McDavid looked on nervously as Edmonton's 3-minute draft clock ran down, then hugged family when his name was finally called. He slipped out of his suit jacket, strolled to the stage, shook a few hands and then slipped the Oilers jersey over his head as the



In this Jan. 2, 2015, file photo, Canada's Connor McDavid celebrates his goal against Denmark during second-period quarterfinal action at the world junior hockey championships in Toronto.

Associated Press

crowd cheered.

"We're lucky to have him," Oilers GM Peter Chiarelli said.

Buffalo then took Hobey Baker winner Jack Eichel of Boston University with the No. 2 pick, a move that was also expected. Eichel scored 26 goals and added 45 assists in 40 games this past season, on his way to being considered col-

lege hockey's best player.

Fans from all around the league — at least their jersey choices suggested that was the case — were in South Florida for the festivities. Many endured long lines to pose with the Stanley Cup (and some with Phil Pritchard, the keeper of the Cup). A group of a half-dozen men from Edmonton headed to their seats, all

wearing matching McDavid No. 97 jerseys. A few from Buffalo wore "I like Eich" T-shirts, an obvious nod to the 34th U.S. President Dwight Eisenhower.

The intrigue in this draft essentially started at No. 3, when Arizona grabbed forward Dylan Strome — McDavid's teammate with the Ontario Hockey League's Erie Otters, and someone who actually finished this past season with nine more points than the new No. 1 pick, albeit in 21 more games.

The biggest early first-round splash was made by Boston, which had the No. 14 pick in the first round to start the day — then got the No. 13 and No. 15 selections in a pair of trades on Friday. The Bruins traded left wing Milan Lucic to Los Angeles for defenseman Colin Miller, goalie Martin Jones and the 13th pick, then got No. 15, No. 45 and No. 52 from Calgary in exchange for defenseman Dougie Hamilton.

But regardless of what the

Bruins or anyone else did, the lights shined brightest on McDavid.

Last year's No. 1 pick, Florida defenseman Aaron Ekblad, was at Friday's draft — held on the very floor where the Panthers play their home games. A year ago on draft night, Ekblad was a nervous wreck.

This time around, fresh off returning from Las Vegas where he was presented the Calder Trophy as the NHL's best rookie this past season, Ekblad coolly munched on chicken fingers in an arena suite.

He knows McDavid well, and believes the Gretzky, Crosby, whoever comparisons won't affect the new No. 1 pick.

"I'm lucky. I'm not nearly as good as him. I don't draw those comparisons," Ekblad said.

"It's going to be tough to live up to but Connor has a set of expectations for himself and I'm thinking he's probably the only one who's going to worry about that. □

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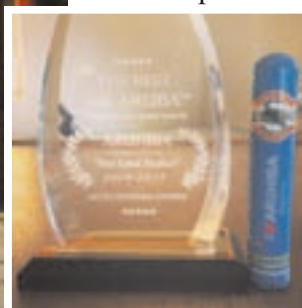
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## Ryne Sandberg resigns as Philadelphia Phillies manager

**ROB MAADDI**  
AP Sports Writer

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** -- Ryne Sandberg left on his terms. An emotional Sandberg resigned as Phillies manager on Friday in his third season as Philadelphia struggles with the worst record in the major leagues.

"In a lot of ways I'm old school, and I'm very much dissatisfied with the record and not pleased at all with that," Sandberg said. "I think that goes hand in hand with being a manager. So it's been a difficult thing to swallow, but I have thought about it for some time, and we've come to this day. The accumulation of losses was something that I take responsibility for and something that really took a toll on me."

Sandberg quits with a 119-159 career record over parts of three seasons leading Philadelphia. His only full season was in 2014, when

the Phillies finished with a 73-89 record.

Third base coach Pete Mackanin will take over as interim manager at least through a six-game homestand. He's 53-53 in parts of two seasons with Pittsburgh in 2005 and Cincinnati in 2007.

"This is my third time as an interim manager and it's not fun," Mackanin said. "It's not a pleasant thing to do because you have to make sure you keep the guys pointed in the right direction and at the same time, everybody's feeling a little bit funny. You've got to try to put it behind you as quick as possible and that's not an easy thing to do. A lot of guys really enjoyed playing for Ryno and we enjoyed working for him. It's not a fun day."

The Phillies are expected to hire a new president soon. Signs point toward Andy MacPhail, who led the Min-

nesota Twins to a pair of World Series titles as general manager in 1987 and 1991. Pat Gillick replaced David Montgomery as team president last August, but the 77-year-old Hall of Fame executive wants to return to a consulting position.

Sandberg sounded like a guy who knew he wasn't going to be part of the future so he departs after the Phillies won two of three at Yankee Stadium this week.

"With some changes at the top looming, I did not want to be in the way of anything happening and progress going forward," Sandberg said. "When it really hit me home, I felt it was better now than later - for myself, for my family, for the organization going forward." Sandberg choked up while thanking fans for their support. The 55-year-old Sandberg was drafted by the Phillies in 1978, but was traded to the Chicago



**Former Philadelphia Phillies manager Ryne Sandberg pauses during a news conference where he announced his resignation before a baseball game against the Washington Nationals, Friday, June 26, 2015, in Philadelphia.**

Associated Press

Cubs where he became a Hall of Fame second baseman.

The Phillies gave Sandberg his first managerial job in the majors in August 2013 after they fired Charlie Manuel, who led them to the 2008 World Series title.

Entering Friday night's game against first-place Washington, the Phillies are 26-48 and trail the Nationals by 14 1/2 games in the NL East.

"Managing a team is very challenging," Sandberg

said. "I enjoyed the challenge. I enjoyed coming to the ballpark every day. I had excellent work from my coaching staff. The goal was to get the most out of my players."

Philadelphia had low expectations this season, with little to no chance of contending and big challenges surrounding moving high-priced players like ace Cole Hamels, 2006 NL MVP Ryan Howard, six-time All-Star Chase Utley and star closer Jonathan Papelbon. □



# Watson maintains lead after second round of Travelers

**PAT EATON-ROBB**

**AP Sports Writer**

**CROMWELL, Conn. (AP)**

— Bubba Watson shot a 3-under 67 on Friday to maintain a two-stroke lead after the second round of the Travelers Championship.

After opening with a 62 on Thursday, Watson had three birdies in a bogey-free round to enter weekend play at 11-under par.

Watson said a gusty north wind forced him to play more conservatively and perhaps think a bit more.

"Some of the holes were playing a little bit longer because of the wind," he said. "The wind was in a different direction, so it just made the course a little bit tougher."

The two-time Masters champion is trying to become the first wire-to-wire winner at TPC River Highlands since Peter Jacobsen in 2003.

Watson won his first PGA Tour title at the 2010 event and has finished in the top 20 five times in eight previous starts. He tied for sixth in 2008, tied for second in 2012, and finished fourth in 2013.

He was delayed in talking to the media Friday after being pulled for a random drug test, something he saw as a positive sign.

"I hope I passed it," he joked. "It's usually when you're at the top of the leaderboard they want to



**Bubba Watson points to the gallery that his ball is going left after his tee shot on the 13th hole during the second round of the Travelers Championship golf tournament, Friday, June 26, 2015, in Cromwell, Conn.**

**Associated Press**

drug test you, especially me." Brian Harman birdied two of his final three holes during an afternoon round of 65 to join Brian Stuard and Carl Pettersson at 9 under. Stuard, who followed an opening 64 with a 67, pulled within a shot of Watson after back-to-back birdies on 15 and 16. But he bogeyed the

17th after hitting his second shot over the green and missing an 8-foot par putt. He then saved par on the 18th with a 19-foot putt.

"That was kind of a nice momentum-keeper going into the weekend," he said. Pettersson, started on the back nine at shot a 31 on those holes, before finishing with a 66.

The back nine was less affected by the wind than the front, where a headwind had several holes playing longer than their yardage.

Scott Brown had a double bogey on his first hole and posted a 38 on the front. But after making par on the 10th, he reeled off six straight birdies to finish with a 67. He was 8 under, tied for fifth place with Jason Gore and Chris Stroud, who is still looking for his first tour win after losing here in a playoff to Ken Duke in 2013.

"The back nine always plays a bit easier here anyway, so I knew there were going to be some opportunities out there," Brown said. "So I just kind of hung in there. When my caddie said, 'Let's go get them on the back nine,' that's what we did."

Nick Watney had the round of the day, shooting a bogey-free 64, with three birdies on each side of the course. Watney was at 7 under in a group that included New England native Keegan Bradley.

Thirty-three players were within six shots of the lead. Ernie Els, who shot a 66 in the opening round, bogeyed the first five holes and missed the cut after shooting a 76 to finished 2-over after 36 holes. Els, making his first appearance here since 2002, threw his club into the air in frustration after bogeying the 12th

hole and hitting his tee shot on the 13th left and into the water guarding the green.

Others notable names who failed to make the cut include Stewart Cink (139), who has won this tournament twice; defending champion Kevin Streelman; four-time major champion Padraig Harrington (141), 2007 winner Hunter Mahan (141) and Louis Oosthuizen (142). Representatives from the British Open brought the Claret Jug to display at the Travelers on Friday, as a reminder to players that four spots and as many as nine in that tournament are up for grabs this week.

The leading five players, not already exempt, from the top 20 in the FedEx Cup will be part of the field at St. Andrews next month.

In addition, the leading four players who finish in the top 12 at TPC River Highlands also will get spots. The Travelers is the first of three PGA Tour events where top finishers can get into St. Andrews. There are four spots available at The Greenbrier Classic, and one at the John Deere Classic.

"I've been in professional golf for 18 years now and I've never been to Europe," Gore said. "So that just blows my mind. It blows a lot of people's mind. Playing at St. Andrews would be a lot of fun, but we've got a long way to go." □

## Mayweather-Pacquiao boosts casino winnings above \$1 billion

**KIMBERLY PIERCEALL**

**Associated Press**

**LAS VEGAS (AP)** — Huge crowds and high rollers in Las Vegas for the Floyd Mayweather-Manny Pacquiao fight helped Nevada casinos make more than \$1 billion off gamblers in May, according to records released Friday.

It was the first time casinos exceeded that total in more than a year.

"To hit a billion, we're pretty pleased," said Nevada Gaming Control Board analyst Michael Lawton.

Slot machines and tables were packed on fight

night, May 2, and casinos responded by raising limits to accommodate big spenders.

It was the start of a busy month that included the new Rock in Rio outdoor music festival, the World Series of Poker and Memorial Day weekend. Gaming board statistics show a 3.3 percent year-over-year increase for May, and Strip casinos were up 1.4 percent, keeping \$601.2 million of what gamblers wagered.

The bumps came despite the loss of the Riviera Hotel and Casino, a Las Vegas

Strip mainstay that closed at the beginning of the month. Lawton and other industry analysts noted that increases of any sort were significant, since May 2014 was big for casinos thanks to an anomalous surge in losses for gamblers playing baccarat.

The fight also helped boost sports betting. "Other" bets that include boxing but not football, basketball, baseball and horse racing, hit a record total of \$81.2 million wagered and \$8.2 million won by casinos.

The long-awaited match-up also helped produce a



surge at McCarran International Airport, which reported nearly 4 million passengers last month, the most for May since the recession.

And the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority said 3.7 million travelers came to town, an all-time monthly record. □



## AL Capsules

# Keuchel too much for Yanks as Astros stretch lead



New York Yankees' Alex Rodriguez, right, reacts after being called out on strikes as Houston Astros catcher Jason Castro, left, throws the ball back to starting pitcher Dallas Keuchel during the first inning of a baseball game Thursday, June 25, 2015, in Houston.

Associated Press

### The Associated Press ASTROS 4, YANKEES 0

**HOUSTON (AP)** — Dallas Keuchel pitched a six-hitter and struck out a career-high 12 in his second shutout in less than a month to lead the Houston Astros past the New York Yankees. Keuchel (9-3) walked one while topping his previous best of 11 strikeouts in a shutout over the White Sox on May 30.

Jose Altuve had three hits and scored three times. Evan Gattis had an RBI single in the sixth and an RBI double in the eighth.

Adam Warren (5-5) allowed three runs and five

hits in 5 2/3 innings for the Yankees.

**WHITE SOX 8, TIGERS 7, 10 innings**

**DETROIT (AP)** — Carlos Sanchez hit a three-run triple off Joba Chamberlain in the 10th inning, and the Chicago White Sox held on to beat the Detroit Tigers.

With the score 5-all, Chamberlain (0-2) walked Melky Cabrera with one out, hit Avisail Garcia with a pitch and then allowed pinch-hitter J.B. Shuck's two-out infield single to shortstop. Sanchez tripled past first baseman Miguel Cabrera and all the way to the right-field wall on a 1-2 pitch,

putting Chicago ahead 8-5.

David Robertson gave up a two-run single to Bryan Holaday with one out in the bottom half, then retired Ian Kinsler on a flyout and, with runners on first and second, intentionally walked Miguel Cabrera to load the bases.

Zach Duke (3-2) pitched a scoreless inning for the win, and Adam Eaton homered for Chicago. Kinsler and J.D. Martinez hit two-run homers for Detroit.

**ORIOLES 8, RED SOX 6**  
**BOSTON (AP)** — Matt Wieters hit a two-run homer during a six-run fourth inning

that carried the Baltimore Orioles over the Boston Red Sox.

J.J. Hardy added a two-run double against rookie left-hander Eduardo Rodriguez (3-2), who lasted just 3 2-3 innings. Steve Pearce had three hits for Baltimore, which took two of three in the series and bounced back after Wednesday's

loss to beat Boston for the seventh time in eight games. Alejandro De Aza hit a three-run homer for the Red Sox.

Miguel Gonzalez (6-4), activated before the game following a stint on the disabled list with a strained right groin, allowed four runs and eight hits in five-plus innings. □

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2D VERSION  
MON-THURS 5:35 | 8:20  
FRI 5:35 | 8:20 | 11:05  
SAT 2:50 | 5:35 | 8:20 | 11:05  
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**SPY**  
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MON-THURS 6:45  
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SAT 2:00 | 6:45  
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**INSIDIOUS 3**  
CHAPTER 3  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13]  
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## WIMBLEDON 2015: Serena Williams halfway to true Grand Slam

HOWARD FENDRICH  
AP Tennis Writer

Serena Williams heads to Wimbledon halfway to a Grand Slam.

If it were up to her, no one would notice.

Williams prefers to downplay her chances of becoming the first tennis player in more than a quarter-century to win all four major tournaments — Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon, U.S. Open — in the same season.

"I haven't done well at Wimbledon recently, so that's the only one that's kind of eluding me," Williams said, managing to keep a straight face and perhaps hoping to convince herself as much as anyone who might be listening. "So I'm trying to get to that one, at least make it deep in the second week of that tournament."

When play begins at the grass-court Grand Slam tournament Monday, Williams will be ranked No. 1, and seeded No. 1, and there is zero doubt that she is far and away the best tennis player on the planet at the moment. Indeed, she might very well be the best in history, a debate that can never be settled on a court, of course.

Already the Year of the Triple Crown in horse racing, 2015 could wind up being the Year of the Grand Slam in tennis and golf, with



At left, in a June 6, 2015, photo, Serena Williams holds the trophy after winning the women's singles final of the French Open tennis tournament against Lucie Safarova of the Czech Republic in Paris, France. At center, in this Jan. 31, 2015, file photo, Serena Williams holds the trophy after defeating Maria Sharapova of Russia in the women's singles final at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia. At right, in this Sept. 7, 2014, file photo, Serena Williams hugs the championship trophy after defeating Caroline Wozniacki, of Denmark, in the women's singles final of the 2014 U.S. Associated Press

Jordan Spieth halfway to a 4-for-4 calendar year at his sport's major championships.

In tennis, only two men and three women have ever done it.

The last man was Rod Laver in 1969. The last woman was Steffi Graf in 1988.

"Why not?" said Williams' coach, Patrick Mouratoglou. "That's probably the most difficult thing to do in tennis. But it's possible."

There are others who could win Wimbledon, of course, challengers such as 2004 champion Maria Sharapova, two-time winner Petra Kvitova or 2013 runner-up Sabine Lisicki.

But as 18-time major champion and ESPN analyst Chris Evert put it when discussing Williams: "I mean, it's all up

to her. When she is at her best, she is better than anybody else."

With a versatile and dangerous serve, and powerful groundstrokes, Williams' game translates quite well to the slick surface at the All England Club, where she has won the championship five times: 2002, 2003, 2009, 2010 and 2012. She also was the runner-up twice.

And yet, here is what Williams had to say shortly after winning the French Open for her 20th Grand Slam trophy and third in a row: "To be perfectly honest, I've never really liked grass, and I just don't know how I've done so well on it." On her past two trips to Wimbledon, Williams bowed out in the fourth round in 2013, and the third round in 2014.

"The monkey's on my back. ... I just consistently do terrible there," Williams insisted, in just a bit of hyperbole.

"Now that it's a slower surface," Williams said, "it'll help me out a little bit." Seems safe to say, actually, the speed doesn't matter. Nor does the opponent.

What's really important when it comes to the 33-year-old Williams is how she's playing and if she is motivated to win.

As she showed during her comeback-filled run at Roland Garros, she can summon the skill and the will to turn any match in her favor, even on her worst days.

"Serena has seemed late in her career ... to be mentally tougher than she's ever been," said John McEnroe, a seven-time major cham-

pion who will be analyzing Wimbledon matches for ESPN. A year ago at the All England Club, Williams departed under odd circumstances. She lost in the third round of singles to 25th-seeded Alize Cornet, then pulled out three games into a doubles match after appearing disoriented. Williams later blamed an illness.

She has not lost at a Grand Slam tournament since.

That's a 21-match winning streak, from New York last September, to Melbourne in January, to Paris this month. Williams is the first woman to win three consecutive majors since — big surprise here — she took four in a row for a self-styled "Serena Slam" in 2002-03.

As for the possibility of completing a true Grand Slam or eventually surpassing Graf's total of 22 majors, Williams is not all that keen about contemplating such milestones.

"I'm still playing, and when you're still playing, you're not thinking, 'Well, I'm here in the history books, and soon I'll be there.' Because then you've become really satisfied," she said. "And seeing that I'm the kind of person that I want to continue to play well, and I want to continue to win matches, I don't want to be satisfied. I want to keep going." □

## Djokovic avoids Federer, Murray, Nadal in Wimbledon draw

MATTIAS KAREN  
AP Sports Writer

LONDON (AP) — Defending champion Novak Djokovic avoided his three biggest traditional rivals in the Wimbledon draw on Friday as the other members of tennis' "Big Four" were all placed on the opposite side.

Serena Williams had no such luck in the women's draw, where she may have to get past a trio of former No. 1s — sister Venus, Victoria Azarenka and Maria Sharapova — just to get to the final.

The draw at the All England Club set up a number of intriguing possibilities for the



Novak Djokovic in action during his match with Alexander Zverev during day four of The Boodles at Stoke Park, near Stoke Poges, England, Friday June 26, 2015.

Associated Press

upcoming two weeks, especially with former cham-

pions Roger Federer, Andy Murray and Rafael Nadal all grouped together in the bottom half of the men's draw. Murray and Nadal could face each other in the quarterfinals, with Federer possible awaiting the winner in the semis.

The bottom half also includes former finalist Tomas Berdych and former semifinalist Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, leaving Djokovic facing a possible semifinal against Stan Wawrinka, the man who beat him in the French Open final.

Djokovic does face a potentially tricky start of the tournament, though, as

he'll open play on Centre Court on Monday against German veteran Philipp Kohlschreiber and could face Australian former No. 1 Lleyton Hewitt in the second round. Hewitt, the 2002 champion, is playing Wimbledon for the final time and has always enjoyed huge crowd support at the All England Club. Another Australian, Bernard Tomic, could then await Djokovic in the third round, while Kei Nishikori of Japan is a potential quarterfinal opponent.

Two-time champion Nadal is seeded only No. 10 this year after a disappointing

season that saw him lose at the French Open for only the second time in his career. He could face fellow Spaniard David Ferrer in the fourth round.

Murray was given one of the toughest possible draws as he tries to win the tournament for a second time, with the home favorite potentially facing Tsonga in the fourth round, Nadal in the quarters, Federer in the semis and Djokovic in the final.

Federer will start his quest for a record eighth title against Damir Dzumhur of Bosnia-Herzegovina and could face Berdych in the quarterfinals. □





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## Google's new self-driving cars cruising Silicon Valley roads

**MICHAEL LIEDTKE**  
**AP Technology Writer**  
**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — The latest models of Google's self-driving cars are now cruising the streets near the Internet company's Silicon Valley headquarters as an ambitious project to transform the way people get around shifts into its next phase.

This marks the first time that the pod-like, two-seat vehicles have been allowed on public roads since Google unveiled the next generation of its self-driving fleet more than a year ago. The cars had previously been confined to a private track on a former Air Force base located about 120 miles southeast of San Francisco. Google announced last month that it would begin testing the curious-looking cars last month, but hadn't specified the timing until Tuesday when it disclosed the vehicles are driving up to 25 miles per hour on the roads around its Mountain View, California, office.



In this Sept. 25, 2012, file photo, California Gov. Jerry Brown, front left, rides in a driverless car to a bill signing at Google headquarters in Mountain View, Calif.

Associated Press

Last year, Google Inc. told reporters it hoped to have a 100 of the self-driving prototypes in its fleet by now, but the company said it has only built 25 of them so far. All 25 have received permission from California's Department of Motor Vehicles to drive neighborhood roads. If all goes well, Google

hopes to gain regulatory clearance to remove the steering wheel, brake pedal and emergency driver from the prototype. Company executives have expressed hope that self-driving cars using its technology will be joining the flow of daily traffic by the end of this decade.

The earlier models of Google's self-driving cars had been involved in 13 minor accidents through more than 1.8 million miles on the roads, according to the company. Google blamed the collisions on other vehicles in every instance except one when the company says one of its own employees was steering. Motorists who encounter Google's latest self-driving car while they are in Mountain View can share their experience with the company at <http://www.google.com/selfdrivingcar/contact/>. □

Google had installed its robotic driving technology in Lexus sports utility vehicles and Toyota Priuses during the first few years of testing before developing the smaller prototype. The new models are designed to work without a steering wheel or brake pedal, although the vehicles will be equipped with those features during the initial runs on public roads.

A human will also ride in the cars to take control in emergencies, just as has been the case with the self-driving Lexus vehicles during the past six years. The debut of the pod-like car will help Google get a better understanding on how well its technology works around other vehicles steered by people.

## Apple removing games with Confederate flag from App Store



Small Confederate flags are displayed on a shelf at Arkansas Flag and Banner in Little Rock, Ark., Tuesday, June 23, 2015.

Associated Press

**CUPERTINO, Calif. (AP)** — Apple said Thursday that it is removing games from its online app store that feature the Confederate flag in "offensive or mean-spirited ways." The move comes days af-

ter Apple CEO Tim Cook called on people in a tweet to honor the victims of the Charleston, South Carolina, church shooting by eradicating racism and the symbols that feed it. Apple said in a statement Thursday that apps are being removed "that use the Confederate flag in offensive or mean-spirited ways, which is in violation of our guidelines." Other apps that depict the flag in educational or historical contexts are not being removed. The company is working with developers to get games that have been removed — such as

the Civil War battle game "Cannon Shooter" — back in the store after changes are made. Apple Inc., which is based in Cupertino, California, is the latest company to distance itself from the divisive symbol after the shooting suspect, Dylann Storm Roof, appeared in photos holding the flag. This week, a host of retailers including Wal-Mart, Amazon, Sears, eBay and Etsy said they would remove Confederate flag merchandise from their shelves and websites, while Google blocked digital ads featuring the flag. □



# Wall Street ends lower on Greece

KEN SWEET

AP Business Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Stocks had a mixed day Friday, as investors waited for negotiators to finish their work on a solution to Greece's debt problems. Chinese stocks plunged 7 percent as fears spread that a year-long bull rally there has become overheated. China's benchmark index is still up more than double over the past year.

The Dow Jones industrial average added 56.66 points, or 0.3 percent, to 17,947.02.

It was largely lifted by Nike, which rose more than 4 percent after posting strong quarterly results.

(\$1.8 billion) to the International Monetary Fund on Tuesday. Failing to do so would put the country on a path toward default and a possible exit from the euro.

"While these deadlines can quite often be taken with a pinch of salt, Greece has literally run out of time on this occasion," said Craig Erlam, senior market analyst at OANDA.

Investors now turn to next week, when the U.S. government will release the June jobs report. Economists forecast that U.S. employers created 237,500 jobs last month, according to FactSet.

There's been a lot of focus on when the Federal Re-

more than 7 percent.

The Shanghai composite closed at 4,391.91. It reached 5,300 just two weeks ago.

"Although I continue to be optimistic about the longer-term trend of (China's) markets, it's clear that we are in a sharp correction phase," said Bernard Aw of IG Markets in Singapore.

In energy trading, the price of oil was nearly flat Friday. It finished the week little changed, and remained in a narrow range for the ninth straight week. Benchmark U.S. crude fell 7 cents to close at \$59.63 a barrel in New York.

Oil finished last week at \$59.61 and it has traded



Trader Mario Innella, center, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Stocks had a mixed day Friday, as investors waited for negotiators to finish their work on a solution to Greece's debt problems.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 0.83 of a point, or 0.04 percent, to 2,101.48 and the Nasdaq composite lost 31.68 points, or 0.6 percent, to 5,080.51. All three indexes ended the week slightly lower.

As they have done all week, global investors are watching closely as Greek debt talks go down to the wire.

On Thursday, a key meeting of eurozone finance ministers broke up without an agreement. The 19 ministers are due to meet again Saturday.

Greece needs a deal in order to make a debt payment of 1.6 billion euros

serve will raise its key interest rate. Recent economic data seems to show that the U.S. economic recovery is holding steady, and now many investors are expecting the Fed to raise rates in September.

"There's a premium on economic data right now. Outside of Greece, everyone will be focused on how the U.S. economy is holding up," said Quincy Krosby, a market strategist at Prudential Financial.

While Greece has been the main driver in financial markets recent weeks, worries over China have risen the list of concerns. On Friday, Chinese stocks plunged

roughly between \$57 and \$61 since late April. Brent crude, a benchmark for international oils used by many U.S. refineries, rose 6 cents to close at \$63.26 a barrel in London.

In other futures trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange, wholesale gasoline rose 1.2 cents to close at \$2.049 a gallon. Heating oil rose 0.1 cents to close at \$1.863 a gallon and natural gas fell 7.7 cents to close at \$2.773 per 1,000 cubic feet. Gold rose \$1.40 to \$1,173.20 an ounce. Silver fell 7 cents to \$15.73 an ounce and copper rose 2 cents to \$2.64 a pound. □

## Shell heading to Alaska while awaiting final drilling permits

DAN JOLING

Associated Press

**ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)** — One Royal Dutch Shell offshore drill rig is headed to Alaska and a second is poised to leave, despite lacking final federal permits that would allow exploratory drilling and possible confirmation of rich oil reserves under the Chukchi Sea.

A spokesman for Royal Dutch Shell PLC said that's routine. But an attorney for Oceana, one of dozens of groups objecting to Arctic offshore drilling, said seeing Shell's flotilla sail north puts pressure on federal agencies to sign off on the permits.

"They're not conditions that lead to good decision-making, good governance and good protections for our ocean," Mike LeVine said. "These are the kind of situations that the public rightfully is concerned about."

The rigs were the target of protests when they docked in Seattle earlier this month. Protesters formed a blockade with kayaks and other vessels as one of the rigs left the Port of Seattle on its way to explore for oil in the Arctic Ocean.

Starting next month, Shell proposes to drill up to four exploration wells over two years in the Chukchi Sea. Exploration wells could confirm economically recoverable oil in what's suspected to be one of the last untapped prospects on the planet. The U.S. Geological Survey estimates there are more than 26 billion barrels of oil in the Alaska outer continental shelf.

Drilling is bitterly opposed by environmental groups that say Arctic offshore oil is best left in the ground. Burning Arctic oil will add to climate warming, disturb an ecosystem under stress from a severe summer sea ice loss, and put polar bears, whales, walrus and ice seals in harm's way from a blowout or spill, according to critics.

Shell spent \$2.1 billion for Chukchi leases in 2008.

Transocean's Polar Pioneer, a semi-submersible drilling unit, is on its way north behind two tug boats to a final staging port, Dutch Harbor, in the Aleutian Islands, Shell spokesman Curtis Smith said.

Crews are fastening materials onto the Noble Discoverer, a 572-foot drill ship, at the Port of Everett, Washington, for the voyage to Alaska.

If the company receives all its permits, it could begin drilling July 15 on the Burger prospect 70 miles off Alaska's northwest shore. Shell's in-house experts forecast sea ice will be gone a little later, the third week of July. The company still needs permits to drill from the U.S. Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Smith said.

"This review process depends on the complexity of the submission and responsiveness of the company in addressing BSEE comments," agency spokesman Greg Julian said in an email to The Associated Press. "We are moving promptly in our review process."

Shell also is awaiting letters of authorization allowing for any possible harassment of walrus and polar bears. Fish and Wildlife spokesman Gavin Shire said in an email that he didn't have a firm timeline when the decisions will be made on the letters. "We are reviewing Shell's program to ensure compliance with all applicable laws," Shire said.

Staging vessels for drilling before receiving all permits is not uncommon, Smith said. It happened for Arctic drilling in 2007 and again in 2012, Smith said. "At the end of this process are the permits to drill, which are regularly or typically granted very, very late in the process," he said. □



## Hong Kong: Macau casino junket figure faces charges

**KELVIN CHAN**  
**AP Business Writer**

**HONG KONG (AP)** — Hong Kong police charged a prominent figure in Macau's casino junket industry with laundering 1.8 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$231 million) through bank accounts in the southern Chinese city.

Cheung Chi-tai is facing three separate counts of money laundering, according to a charge sheet provided Friday by authori-

ties. The businessman was a major investor in publicly traded Macau junket operator Neptune Group. Police in Hong Kong, an hour's ferry ride from Macau, have been investigating him since November, when they were granted a court order freezing his assets under the Organized and Serious Crimes Ordinance.

Cheung has been dogged by allegations of ties to Chinese organized criminal gangs, known as triads.

The 54-year-old was named as one of nine top lieutenants of the Wo Hop To triad in a 1992 U.S. Senate subcommittee report on Asian organized crime. In a 2011 Hong Kong court case, a witness identified him as a triad leader who ordered a subordinate to kill a Sands Macau casino dealer. He's never been charged with any related crimes.

Junkets are middlemen that arrange for wealthy mainland Chinese gam-

blers to travel to Macau, lend them money to gamble and then collect any debts when they return home. However, because casino debts are unenforceable on the mainland, there are suspicions that some junket operators work with organized crime to collect debts.

In a 2013 Hong Kong money laundering trial involving Cheung's former business associate Carson Yeung, Cheung was

named as one of the main shareholders of Neptune Group. Yeung, the former owner of Birmingham City Football Club, said Cheung invited him to invest in the company and its associated VIP gambling rooms.

Hong Kong stock exchange filings show Cheung, through his private holding company Jumbo Boom, owned as much as 12.9 percent of Neptune in 2007 but had sold off his stake by September 2008. □

## Chinese stocks drop, but impact in US is seen as limited

**KEN SWEET**  
**AP Business Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — After a sizzling rally that more than doubled the value of China's stock market over the past year, investors are now heading for the exit.

China's Shanghai Composite plunged more than 7 percent on Friday, one of its biggest drops in the last 10 years. The index is down 19 percent since its recent high reached June 12.

Chinese investors may be scrambling, but average U.S. investors shouldn't be overly worried. Here's what has happened and why investors shouldn't react rashly:

There have been signs of overheating in China for a while. Shares in Shanghai more than doubled over the past year, despite evidence the Chinese economy is slowing. Chinese economic growth fell to 7 percent from January through March, slowest quarter since 2009. At the same time, state-owned media has encouraged or-



**Investors react as they check stock prices in a brokerage house in Fuyang in central China's Anhui province Friday, June 26, 2015. Chinese stocks plunged on Friday as panicked investors rushed to sell over fears that an extended bull market was coming to an end.**

(Chinatopix Via AP)

inary Chinese for months to load up on shares. Many borrowed heavily to buy stocks, taking out so-called margin loans.

Rising stocks encouraged companies to raise money

by issuing shares and to use the proceeds to pay down debt. In the first half of the year, the Shanghai stock market led the world in initial public offerings: 78 companies issued shares in

Shanghai, raising \$16.6 billion, according to a study by the accounting firm EY. Hong Kong was No. 2 with 31 deals that raised \$16 billion. Shenzhen was No. 5 with 112 deals that raised

\$7 billion.

Now analysts say the flood of new shares is overwhelming the market and helping to push prices down. Moreover, the government began to worry the market had reached dangerous levels, and Chinese regulators have started to tighten rules on margin lending.

China's economy is huge, but the country's stock market is largely isolated. Outside investors have only been able to access the Chinese stock market since October, and that required purchasing stock in Hong Kong. To buy directly in the Chinese stock market required a specialized license. For example MSCI, a company which publishes stock indexes, made a decision earlier this month not to include Chinese "A" shares, or stocks traded on the mainland, in their global indexes. MSCI largely cited the lack of access for foreign investors to China's market as the reason to continue to keep China out of its indexes. □

## Japan inflation ebbs in May, jobless rate remains flat

**ELAINE KURTENBACH**  
**AP Business Writer**

**TOKYO (AP)** — The state of Japan's economic recovery remains murky, with inflation still nearly flat in May despite unprecedented monetary stimulus, though joblessness was flat at 3.3 percent and household spending rose for the first time in over a year.

The data released Friday

followed relatively weak indicators recently that have showed softening demand and slowing industrial production. Economists say the world's third-largest economy slowed or possibly contracted in the April-June quarter.

Japan's central bank is pumping unprecedented sums of cash into the economy, seeking to push prices

higher and spur inflation. The ultra-easy monetary policy is the main weapon in Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's economic program, dubbed Abenomics, and is meant to convince companies and families to step up spending to avoid having to pay more as prices rise.

However, lower energy costs due to the fall in oil

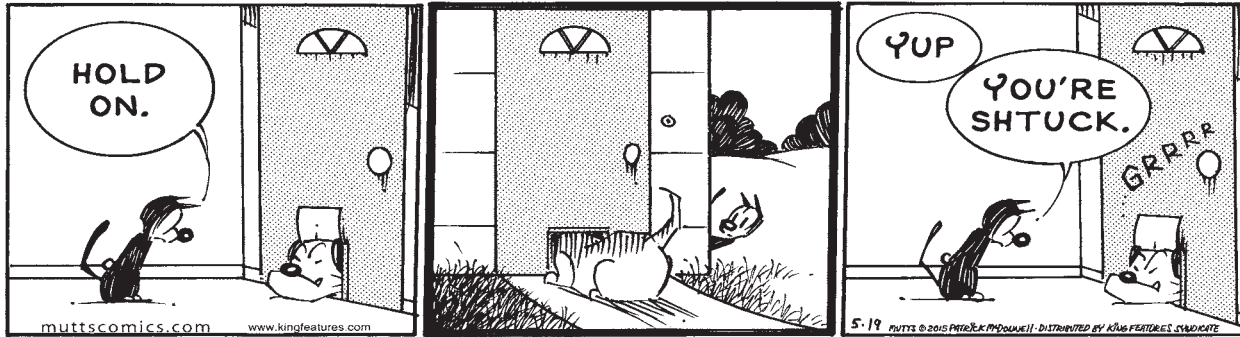
prices over the past year are slowing progress toward the Bank of Japan's 2 percent inflation goal. Officials say they expect prices to begin rising once lagging declines in gas prices stabilize in coming months. But the trend toward lower energy prices is helping businesses and consumers, who increased spending by 4.8 percent

in May, the first such jump since March 2014. Electricity rates, which are linked to trends in oil prices, are due to fall 3 percent in July.

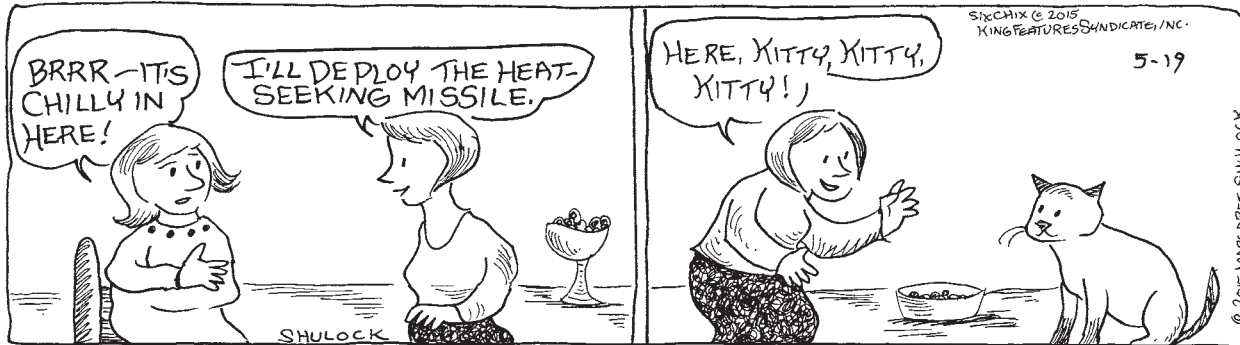
An April 2014 jump in the sales tax to 8 percent from 5 percent pushed the economy into recession as purchases that had been moved forward to beat the tax hike fell off. □



**Mutts**



**6 Chix**



**Blondie**



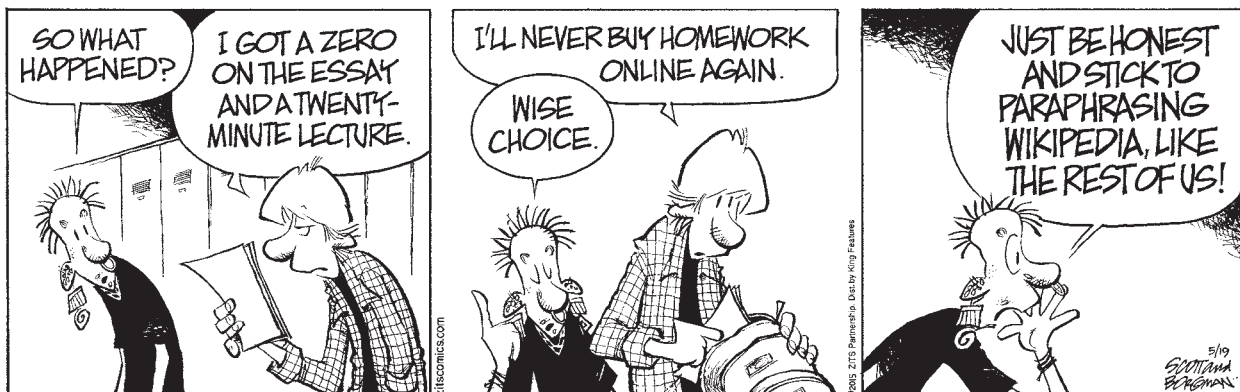
**Mother Goose & Grimm**



**Baby Blues**



**Zits**



**Conceptis Sudoku**

	5						8	
6			2	9	1			4
			3		5			
	8	1				4	5	
	3						7	
	6	5				3	1	
			1		3			
9			7	5	6			2
	4						6	

Difficulty Level ★★

5/19

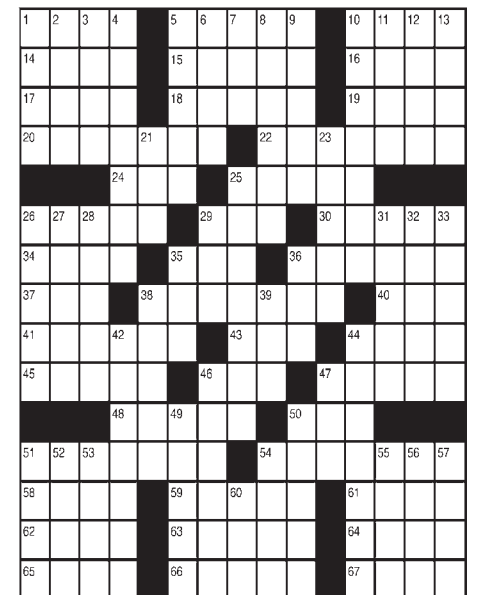
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

2	3	5	8	6	7	4	9	1
9	4	6	3	2	1	7	8	5
1	8	7	4	9	5	2	6	3
5	9	8	6	4	3	1	2	7
7	1	3	9	5	2	8	4	6
4	6	2	7	1	8	3	5	9
3	2	1	5	8	6	9	7	4
8	5	9	1	7	4	6	3	2
6	7	4	2	3	9	5	1	8

**ACROSS**

- 1 \_\_\_-bodied; physically fit
- 5 Pile up
- 10 Strong \_\_\_ ox
- 14 Terrible fate
- 15 Leg bone
- 16 Freeway division
- 17 Peace symbol
- 18 Bumbling
- 19 Crematorium shelf supplies
- 20 Germfree
- 22 Grand player
- 24 Acquired
- 25 Repairs
- 26 Farewell
- 29 Pea casing
- 30 Passed out cards
- 34 Locate
- 35 Avid supporter
- 36 Intense fear
- 37 Tit for \_\_\_
- 38 \_\_\_ game; "Midsummer Classic"
- 40 Dennis or Doris
- 41 Stamina
- 43 Golf ball holder
- 44 Heavy weights
- 45 More unusual
- 46 Laying bird
- 47 Rupture
- 48 Sellers or Falk
- 50 Actress West
- 51 Dreamlike
- 54 Muckety-muck
- 58 Alder or ash
- 59 Copy machine
- 61 Bamboozle
- 62 Does drugs
- 63 Foolish
- 64 Over the hill
- 65 June honorees
- 66 Not as wacky
- 67 Strong desires



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/19/15

**Monday's Puzzle Solved**

MAMA	SPLIT	ACHE
AVID	ORATE	THUG
YARD	CONSENTING	
ASA	BCDE	QINKS
	CURES	FOR
PAUPER	RENEWS	
ALLOW	ALIAS	ONA
NEON	FRONT	GNAW
GNU	NOMAD	LODGE
ESSAYS	CARESS	
	POT	SUPER
SCRAM	WEDS	LAB
NOURISHING	GAGA	
YLES	RINSE	ONES
BADE	STEEL	ODDS

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5/19/15

**DOWN**

- 1 Puts two and two together
- 2 Cowboy's shoe
- 3 Reason to wed
- 4 Came into view
- 5 Lopsided
- 6 Ore location, often
- 7 Mary Todd's man
- 8 Drank slowly
- 9 Obi fabric, perhaps
- 10 \_\_\_, Jr.; two-time Indy 500 champ
- 11 Calcutta dress
- 12 Jillian & Curry
- 13 Bird's home
- 21 Debtor's note
- 23 Deadly snake
- 25 Ogre
- 26 Get \_\_\_; scold
- 27 Ross or Rigg
- 28 Bury
- 29 Chum
- 31 Passion
- 32 Bank offerings
- 33 Rendezvous
- 35 Pesky insect
- 36 Edison's initials
- 38 Concur
- 39 Reasonable bedtime
- 42 Hold in by self-control
- 44 Today

- 46 Capital of Montana
- 47 Black \_\_\_; doctor's kit
- 49 Cabs
- 50 Small kitchen appliance
- 51 Decorative nailhead
- 52 \_\_\_ Major; bright northern constellation
- 53 Tall marsh stalk
- 54 Rib or clavicle
- 55 Gigantic
- 56 Candid
- 57 Turner & others
- 60 Hightailed it



## New York City bill would require some bathrooms to be gender-neutral: AP

MICHAEL BALSAMO  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — New York City officials, aiming to curb gender bias and harassment, are readying a plan that would require businesses to convert some restrooms to gender-neutral facilities.

Legislation is being introduced that would require publicly available, single-occupancy restrooms in both public and private buildings to be designated as gender-neutral. It would also amend the language of some city laws, including the plumbing code, which requires separate lavatories for men and women.

"This is a very important issue," said New York City Comptroller Scott Stringer, whose office is releasing a report Friday recommending the changes. "It's time to help individuals who identify as transgender to use the bathroom without fear of consequence."

The law would require businesses to place new signage on existing restrooms to identify them as gender-neutral. It would not apply to multi-stall lavatories. "We're not talking about constructing new bathrooms or spending any money, except basically purchasing a sign," Stringer said. □

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27	103	\$4,000
29	134	\$4,500
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## SpaceX capsule to deliver new parking spot for space station

**MARCIA DUNN**

**AP Aerospace Writer**

**CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP)** — SpaceX stands

ready to launch a much-needed load of supplies to the International Space Station this weekend on the heels of a failed supply run by Russia.

Besides food and experiments, the Dragon cargo ship ordered up by NASA holds a new docking port, or parking place, for future commercial crew capsules.

Liftoff is scheduled for 10:21 a.m. Sunday. Good flying weather is forecast for SpaceX's unmanned Falcon rocket.

This shipment is especially critical because the space station has lost two deliveries since fall.

A Russian supply ship spun out of control shortly after liftoff in April and burned up on re-entry with all its contents. In October, an Orbital Sciences Corp. cargo carrier was destroyed in a Virginia launch explosion. Once again, SpaceX is picking up the slack. This will be the eighth station

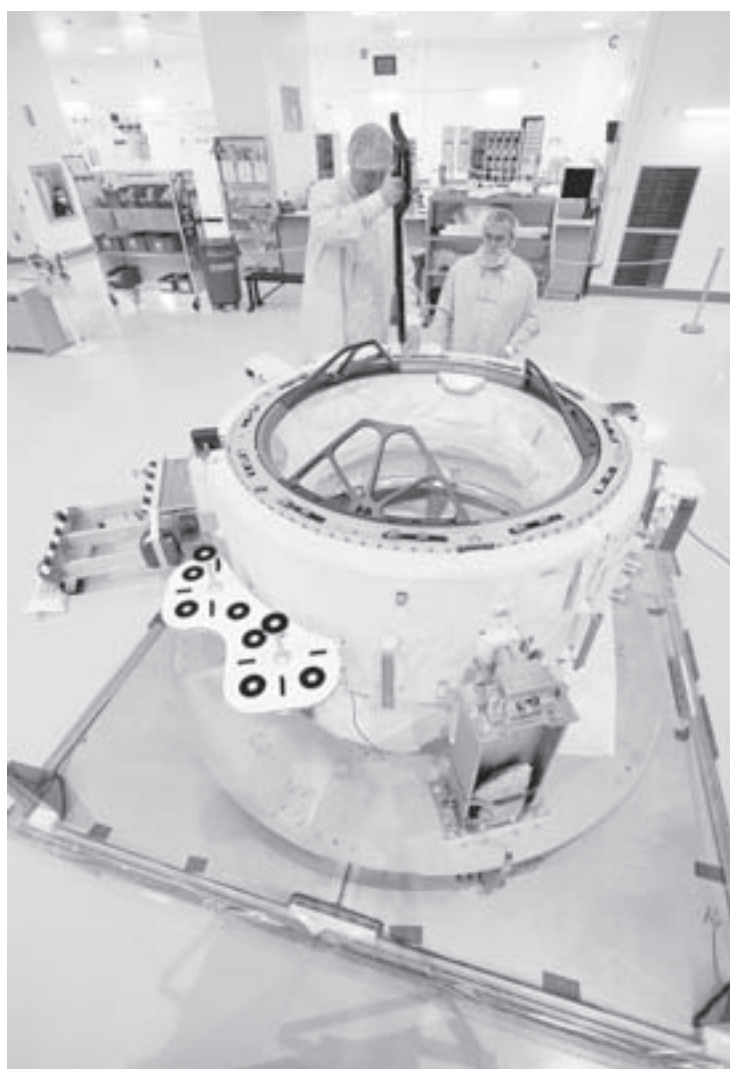
supply run for the California-based company; the first was in 2012.

"Dragon has been super reliable," SpaceX's Hans Koenigsmann told reporters Friday.

Nearly 5,300 pounds (2400 kilograms) of gear is packed for the trip, including replacements for science experiments lost in the Orbital launch accident, some of them designed by students.

Stored in the capsule's unpressurized trunk is the first of two new docking rings for the station. Spacewalking astronauts will hook up the 1,160-pound (526-kilogram) port built by Boeing later this summer.

The twin ports eventually will be used by astronauts arriving in new American-built capsules. NASA is paying billions of dollars to SpaceX and Boeing to develop the crew capsules. The SpaceX version is a souped-up Dragon. Boeing's model is the CST-100, short for Crew Space Transportation; the 100 represents the beginning of space at 62 miles up, or 100



In this March 24, 2015 photo made available by NASA, engineers in the Space Station Processing Facility at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla.

kilometers.

In both cases, manned flights are still at least two years off. Until then, Americans will continue to hitch rides to the space station on Russian rockets for tens of millions of dollars per seat.

The Russian Space Agency plans to take another stab at a station shipment from Kazakhstan next Fri-

day. Russian space officials want to see how that goes before launching a new three-man crew to the station on July 22, two months late because of the April cargo ship mishap. Three men currently are living at the space station, three fewer than usual because of the recent hold in Russian Soyuz launches. Two of them are one-quar-

ter of the way through a one-year mission: American Scott Kelly and Russian Mikhail Kornienko.

The third, Russia's Gennady Padalka, will become the world's most experienced spaceman this weekend. He's set to break the world record for most accumulated time in space, surpassing the 803-day mark held by former cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev, now a Russian space program official.

By the time Padalka returns to Earth in September, he will have spent 2½ years in orbit.

Minutes after Sunday's liftoff, in a test on its own dime, SpaceX will make another attempt to vertically land a Falcon 9's discarded first-stage booster on an ocean platform off the north Florida coast. Two of the previous efforts — aimed at demonstrating rocket reusability — ended in flames, while another was called off because of rough seas.

A new modified barge is making its debut for the upcoming Falcon flight; it's called "Of Course I Still Love You." Like barge No. 1, "Just Read the Instructions," the names hail from science fiction writer Iain M. Banks' Culture series. SpaceX founder Elon Musk wanted to honor the late Scottish author. And yes, the SpaceX Falcon rocket is a nod to the "Star Wars" Millennium Falcon. □

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24/7



## Tatum and Pinkett Smith on 'Magic Mike's' radical positivity

LINDSEY BAHR

AP Film Writer

WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif.

(AP) — When Jada Pinkett Smith got the call from her agent about the "Magic Mike" sequel script, there was something she needed to know: Her part as Rome, the owner of a male strip club, was written for a man.

"I was like, OK?" she said. She was skeptical, if intrigued.

Pinkett Smith had actually been thinking about the world of strippers; though she'd never set foot in a strip club, she had just wrapped a documentary for CNN in Atlanta that dealt with strip clubs and sex trafficking.

She agreed to Skype with "Magic Mike" star and producer Channing Tatum and director Gregory Jacobs. "That was a very interesting call," she said. Originally, Tatum had wanted Jamie Foxx for the role. He wanted to show people the side of Foxx he'd seen during a fun party, but it didn't work out "for a lot of reasons."

It ended up being the best thing for the film, which comes out Wednesday.

"The spirit of the thing was always supposed to be a woman," said Tatum. "We were just a bunch of guys sitting here trying to come up with what is inside of a



In this Thursday, June 18, 2015 photo, actors Channing Tatum, left, and Jada Pinkett Smith pose for a portrait in promotion of the new film, "Magic Mike XXL," in West Hollywood, Calif.

Associated Press

woman's mind and it's like, 'Idiot, you should just ask them.'"

But Pinkett Smith still needed convincing.

"I think the selling point for me was when Channing said, 'Listen, I really think that there's a level of responsibility and celebration that we can bring to this whole form.' I thought that was a radical freaking idea," she said, her experiences in Atlanta top of mind. "If we could really elevate what is happening in these environments, how awesome would that be?"

So they got to work making Rome a woman, resting heavily on Pinkett Smith's input on who exactly this enigmatic club owner from Mike's (Tatum) past should be.

The road-tripping strippers (including Tatum, Matt Bomer, Joe Manganiello, and Kevin Nash) don't meet up with her until about half way through the film. Though the guys are bigger than life, it's the diminutive Pinkett Smith who dominates the screen as soon as she's introduced — the queen of her own

empire of luxury and desire where men (including the likes of Michael Strahan, Donald Glover and Stephen "Twitch" Boss) exist purely for the pleasure of the female patrons.

"I created a philosophy that this is a woman who looked at eroticism and sexuality as a gateway to enlightenment," said Pinkett Smith.

"We didn't have to do very much. We just got out of the way," added Tatum, who meant it pretty literally, comparing her energy to that of a lioness.

"It's like, 'no one move. If you don't look at it in the eyes, it won't attack you. Try to feel powerful! Don't show weakness!'" he laughed.

The dynamic shifts only when the guys perform. Pinkett Smith, who takes over the MC role for Matthew McConaughey's Dallas in a key scene, was more than happy to sit back and watch with feverish female extras. And they weren't just acting — their reactions were real, she said.

"It was the show of our lives. Really. It's the crème de la crème. It's not going to get any better than that. To have a front row seat watching Channing and Twitch? Just shut it down. It's over," she said.

And yet, "Magic Mike's" phenomenal appeal is something that Tatum still can't really wrap his head around. The 2012 Steven Soderbergh film about male strippers and the economy cost only \$7 million to produce and ended up grossing \$113.7 million domestically.

Tatum thinks they "caught a wave" off of the "Fifty Shades of Grey" phenomenon; the book had come out a year prior. "I wouldn't have read that and thought 'women empowerment,' but it definitely somehow turned them on. And I don't mean sexually. I just mean the switch was turned on," said Tatum. "I think it's just time. I think women are ready to self-actualize in an erotic, sexual manner. I think that women are becoming less afraid," said Pinkett Smith. "We need time to really explore that territory."

Still thinking of what she learned in Atlanta and what she hoped her character embodied, she made it clear that respect is paramount.

And perhaps the positivity of "Magic Mike" could catch on. Pinkett Smith even got a call from her sister-in-law in Philadelphia who'd seen the film and decided she wanted to open up a place just like Rome's. □

## Common, Oyelowo diversify film academy membership

SANDY COHEN

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — In choosing its newest members, the film academy went for younger and more diverse.

Kevin Hart, Common, Emma Stone, Dev Patel and "Whiplash" writer-director Damien Chazelle were among the 322 new academy members announced Friday.

"It's really gratifying to see the big increases in genre, people of color, age and national origin," academy president Cheryl Boone Isaacs said in an interview. Other new inductees include Benedict Cumber-

batch, David Oyelowo, Sergio Mendes, Elizabeth Banks, John Legend, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Tom Hardy and "Dope" director Rick Famuyiwa.

Membership in the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is by invitation only. Oscar nominees are automatically considered; others must be sponsored by two members of their branch of filmmaking. "We've stressed very much that our members in each branch, it's their duty to really pay attention to a diverse talent pool, to those coming up, to those that may have been overlooked for membership,"

Boone Isaacs said. "I think that effort has paid off well this year."

The nearly 6,000-member international group has long been criticized for its largely white, male membership.

An all-white roster of acting nominees at the most recent Academy Awards inspired the hashtag #OscarsSoWhite on social media and increased scrutiny of the lack of diversity in the ranks of the organization.

Boone Isaacs said the criticism was "part of the conversation" that inspired existing academy members to actively seek new talent in places they may not



In this May 4, 2015 file photo, Common arrives at The Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute benefit gala in New York.

Associated Press

have ordinarily looked.

"It's gotten folks thinking in a way that maybe they just hadn't thought before," she said. □



## Harry Potter coming back, this time on stage in new play

**LONDON (AP)** — Harry Potter is going to have a new adventure — one that takes him from page and screen to stage.

Author J.K. Rowling announced Friday that a new play called "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" will open at London's Palace Theatre about a year from now in the summer of 2016. Rowling tweeted that the play explores "an untold part of Harry's story" and is not a prequel.

The first-ever play about the bespectacled boy wizard it is based on a new story by Rowling, Jack Thorne and John Tiffany.

The script is by Thorne, a stage and screen writer whose work includes vampire story "Let the Right One In." The director is Tiffany, who helmed the critically lauded war play "Black



In this April 9, 2015 file photo, Author J.K. Rowling speaks at the Empire State Building during a lighting ceremony and to mark the launch of her non-profit children's organization Lumos in New York. Associated Press

Watch" and multiple Tony Award-winning musical "Once." The production will

also feature music by British songwriter Imogen Heap. "I've had countless offers

to extend Harry's story over the years, but Jack, John and (producer) Sonia Fried-

man are a dream team!" Rowling tweeted.

Rowling has long insisted there will be no new Harry Potter novels, but she has kept fans happy with spin-off works including the magical encyclopedia "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them," which is set to be a film starring Eddie Redmayne.

Rowling said she thought that once audiences saw "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" they would agree that the stage "was the only proper medium for the story."

Rowling's seven Harry Potter novels have sold more than 450 million copies around the world and been made into eight successful films.

Tickets for "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" will go on sale this fall. □

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## Injured hand shelves 'Tonight' show



In this Aug. 25, 2014 file photo, Jimmy Fallon presents an award at the 66th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — "Tonight" show host Jimmy Fallon is on the shelf following a hand injury that required minor surgery Friday and forced NBC to cancel a taping of late-night TV's most popular program. The "Tonight" show tweeted that Fallon is "totally fine" but NBC offered no

immediate details on how or where the 40-year-old comic was injured. He'll have some recovery time since the show was scheduled to be on hiatus for the next two weeks anyway. "Tonight" was supposed to have Benicio Del Toro, Taylor Kitsch and Penn & Teller as guests Friday. NBC is airing a rerun instead. □

## Noah Wyle, wife Sara Wells welcome baby daughter

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Noah Wyle and his wife welcomed a baby girl this week.

Wyle's wife, actress Sara Wells, gave birth to Frances Harper Wyle on Monday, the actor's spokeswoman said.

Mother and daughter are doing well, and Wyle was described as being "over the moon."

Wyle and Wells married last summer at his Santa Barbara, California, ranch. Wyle has a son and daughter from his first marriage, to Tracy Warbin.

Wyle, who gained fame in the hit medical drama "ER," stars in TNT's "Falling Skies," which begins its fifth and final season Sunday. Wells' TV credits include "Nip/Tuck" and "Californication." □



In this Feb. 22, 2015 file photo, Noah Wyle, left, and Sara Wells arrive at the 2015 Vanity Fair Oscar Party in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press



In this May 27, 2015 photo, British musician Pete Townshend, left, and Rachel Fuller pose for a portrait in promotion of his upcoming album "Classic Quadrophenia", a "symphonized" version of The Who's landmark album "Quadrophenia," in New York.

Associated Press

## The Who's Pete Townshend to present 'Classic Quadrophenia'

**JOHN CARUCCI**  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — On a rare day off from the first leg of The Who's 50th anniversary tour, Pete Townshend punctually enters the room with longtime partner Rachel Fuller to discuss "Classic Quadrophenia." The symphonic release of the Who's 1973 concept album came out earlier this month and includes music by the London Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and vocals by classical tenor Alfie Boe, rocker Billy Idol, Phil Daniels, and Townshend. There's also a one-night only performance in London set for July 5.

Townshend, 70, has always felt The Who's music was very orchestral for a rock band. But for this performance, there's an entire orchestra and choir to perform his composition. That doesn't faze him a bit.

"They will get on the tube with their violin and go to the Royal Albert Hall. They'll look at the music, they will play it to their best of their ability and then they will go home. No fuss, no nonsense ... they are brilliant, brilliant, brilliant trained musicians."

Townshend had previously dabbled with alternative musical concepts — including bringing rock

opera to the masses with "Tommy" in 1969, a project that launched The Who into superstardom. The album spawned a 1975 movie and a Broadway musical that ran from 1993 to 1995. Townshend says that writing "Quadrophenia," acted as a form of salvation that helped counteract the spoils of success after "Tommy" and the 1971 release "Who's Next."

"We were in real trouble," Townshend says of the period in the early 1970s. "Keith Moon had become this kind of clown. Roger Daltrey had become this rock god. You know, I was in a boiler suit" — a reference to the oversized white coveralls that became iconic for his look at that time.

And bassist John Entwistle? "(He) was dressing up in spider costumes with silver spiders round his neck," recalled Townshend.

That's why the musician took it upon himself to reconnect with fans with album they could relate.

"Quadrophenia" tells the story of Jimmy, who Townshend describes as an amalgamation of the angry young male fans that made up the band's early fan base. He's a lost soul that finds solace in fighting, taking uppers, and music (The Who is a favorite for

him). Townshend wrote four themes that reflected each member of the band. Those melodies help tell a complex story of a confused young man in "Quadrophenia," yet Townshend simplifies it.

"It's about a boy who's having a bad day and ends up in the rain and how that echoes and how that changes his view," he said.

Idol was blown away that he got the chance to play "Ace Face," the role played by Sting in the 1979 film.

"I love The Who and it's fantastic to get a chance to interact with these great people," Idol said recently at a Musicares event in New York honoring Townshend.

The disenfranchised youth theme sums up the appeal of The Who, especially in the band's early days.

Fuller, who played a big part in shaping the sound of the new release, shares an outsider's view of the audience base.

"I think what you didn't have with the Rolling Stones and what you didn't have with the Beatles, and certainly not with the Carpenters, is that The Who did connect with the teenagers with anger," she said. □



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